



# THE NOE VALLEY VOICE

## Rec Center Murder Suspect Still At Large

By Denise Minor

Police are still searching for a suspect in the May 22 murder of an Oakland man at the Upper Noe Recreation Center, located along Sanchez between Day and 30th streets.

Arturo Davis, 30, was shot several times in the head as he stood near the center's gym entrance after playing basketball with three friends. The incident occurred at around 7:30 p.m. Davis was rushed to San Francisco General Hospital, where he died later that evening.

"The guy who shot him talked to people outside near the play area—none of them knew him. He walked in and out a few times before he shot Davis," said Homicide Inspector Mike Burns.

"The people who talked to him are all deathly afraid. They want to forget that they saw anything in the first place," he added.

Witnesses' fears were not placated when they learned that one of the friends accompanying Davis that night was shot three nights later. Gezel Johnson, in his late 20s, was killed at his home on Bell Court in the Hunters Point neighborhood, according to Burns.

Neighborhood beat officer Ed Collins, who works out of the Ingleside Police Station, said police are keeping a close eye on the area around the recreation center.

"I've been up at the gym a lot. I park my fanny in a seat there from about 7 p.m. on sometimes," said Collins. "The radio car officers have been up there a great deal."

Many people, particularly parents of children who use the center, have been upset by the murder, he continued.

"This guy was real bold. He walked



Despite the shocking May 22 murder of a basketball player at the entrance to the gym, there's still plenty of hoop action at Upper Noe Recreation Center. PHOTO BY TOM WACHS

around and talked to people," said Collins. "It's scary. There were little kids playing there. There were tykes in the sandbox."

Witnesses told police that two of Davis' friends chased the gunman from the gym, but lost sight of him. The friends then left before police arrived.

Basketball players who talked to the

Voice on two evenings at the gym downplayed the significance of the shooting. "I think it was just a fluke thing," said Daniel Paris, 33. "From what I hear, it had nothing to do with the gym. People have arguments here, but they always shake

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## What Makes Roberta Achtenberg Run

By Kathy Dalle-Molle

Roberta Achtenberg is smart, almost intimidatingly smart. She is sober, thoughtful, and articulate.

Her manner is reminiscent of one of those professors from college—the kind you sincerely respected but whose door you were a little apprehensive about knocking on, even during office hours.

Mayoral candidate Achtenberg speaks not of beginning her campaign, but rather of "launching an effort," "a counterattack on the Republican revolution," which calls for "very drastic reforms, restructuring, reinvention, and renewal."

It wouldn't be at all surprising to see a newly elected Mayor Achtenberg on her first day in office handing out copies of *Reinventing Government* or *Reengineering the Corporation* to every City Hall employee.

Achtenberg is not a schmoozer. She offers a perfunctory "Good to see you again" at the start of our interview. She's well-prepared, even having read the last interview she gave to the *Voice*, when she was a supervisor in October 1992. She's organized and a careful listener. When my tape recorder, in need of a tape change, clicks off, so does Achtenberg, stopping mid-thought, mid-sentence, and picking up exactly where she left off once the recorder is on again.

And when the interview is concluded, before I can remind her, she is leading me toward her campaign manager, Joyce Newstat, to confirm a couple of facts brought up at the beginning of our hour-long talk.

There's little pizzazz, little charisma,

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## Double Rainbow Throws in the Towel

By Loren J. Bialik

After 17 years on 24th Street, Double Rainbow Ice Cream will be laying down the scoop and calling it quits this summer.

Jim McFadden, who has operated the franchise for the past two years, says, "Ice cream sales just aren't as good as they used to be." And his family, which owns the building, has received a more lucrative offer from Posh Bagels, Inc., to rent the Double Rainbow storefront at 3933 24th St.

Michael Sachar, who with Steven Fink started Double Rainbow in San Francisco in 1976, was saddened to learn that Noe Valley's outlet would be closing.

He ardently recalled that the 24th Street parlor was one of Double Rainbow's premier stores, being the third in a long line of soda shops opened to satisfy the country's craving for super-rich ice cream. (Now, almost 20 years later, Double Rainbow has 160 branches in four states—California, Arizona, New Mexico, and Massachusetts—and two foreign countries, Thailand and Hong Kong.)

"Steven used to live on 23rd between

Castro and Noe. He shopped on 24th Street and thought it would be a great place to open a store," Sachar remembers.

The partners reasoned that Noe Valley had a sweet tooth—Bud's Ice Cream was dishing out gallons at 24th and Castro—and could definitely use a choice of flavors. But they soon found out that 24th Street was a rocky road.

"We signed the lease in November 1978. After going to the city Planning Department and getting their okay, we applied for the building permits. But by that time the city had adopted a moratorium [on food-serving establishments], which stopped us from converting the existing plant store to an ice cream store," said Sachar.

After lobbying for months, the pair finally got the go-ahead in April of 1979.

"But the night before we were to open, there was a fire in the shop. We thought it might have been arson, because some neighborhood groups had objected to the store," said Sachar. "But it turned out it was probably precipitated by a careless construction worker."

Once the damage was repaired and the

shop opened, Noe Valley's Double Rainbow enjoyed a decade of booming business. "We started there [in Noe Valley], and we hold it very dear to our hearts. There was always a nice neighborhood feel in that store," said Sachar.

He also remembered the days after the Oct. 17 earthquake in 1989. When the 24th Street store lost its electricity (along with everybody else), the employees gave away free ice cream to hoards of frazzled San Franciscans.

Sachar and Fink continued to operate the dessert shop, but in October of 1993 their lease expired, and they didn't hold an option to renew. It was then that Jim McFadden acquired the storefront under a licensing agreement which allowed him to utilize the familiar logo and merchandise the popular ice cream.

But health-conscious consumers, concerned over calories and saturated fats, have taken the bite out of ice cream sales, according to McFadden. And he admits that operating an ice cream parlor "was not my career."

An attorney and real estate manager, McFadden says, "If I had had more time



The Double Rainbow ice cream shop on 24th Street across from Bell Market may have melted away by the end of the summer. PHOTO BY CHARLES KENNARD

to put into it [Double Rainbow], it would have run better."

Sachar agrees. "The store is closing not due to a lack of business. When we had the 24th Street store, we were selling

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## Foolish Way to Honor Cesar Chavez

Editor:

Regarding the letters to the editor in the June issue on the name change of Army Street to Cesar Chavez Street:

Many of us who oppose it also gave up grapes and supported Mr. Chavez in his efforts on behalf of agricultural workers; and we were not necessarily supporters of Ronald Reagan either.

But a street name change that was put through with only perfunctory public inquiry (after a notable failure on 24th Street) and which causes inconvenience and expense, both public and private, is a foolish way to commemorate a fine hero.

Surely a more constructive and less divisive idea could have been put forward.

Cesar Chavez should be honored as *he* would have wished, and not by an empty exchange of street signs.

Joan Leaf  
Twenty-fourth Street

## Bad Restaurants Will Be Swallowed Up

Editor:

I think your article on 24th Street restaurants ["Are Cafes and Restaurants Eating up 24th Street?" June 1995] points out the faulty reasoning of some people in the neighborhood and the silliness of a law that seeks to artificially control the marketplace.

Before legislation like a restaurant moratorium is enacted, people should consider the law of supply and demand. When things are controlled so as to limit their supply, but the demand remains high, the price will rise, usually causing negative results that offset the good that was intended. For example, people want to preserve the scale and views of the city, so height and sight limits are created. The result is that the property supply is kept low while the demand keeps going up, so prices rise steadily.

The restaurant moratorium on 24th

# LETTERS 32¢

Street [imposed by city planners at the request of residents in the early 1980s] is similar. The supply in Noe Valley has been fixed for 10 years, but new people keep moving in who are interested in eating out, and the restaurants flourish. Landlords can then charge high rents (and this tends to push up rents on other properties as well), and we all ultimately pay for those rents through the food we buy.

Whether some people like it or not, there are many other people who like eating in these restaurants. If the public didn't want them, the cafes would get no customers and would go out of business.

People yelled about Starhucks and all the coffee shops along 24th Street. But these cafes are almost always crowded and give no evidence of going away soon. They ran their menus up the flagpole and people saluted. That's the way the free market works.



Another difficulty I have with the moratorium is that it seems to have been motivated by a belief that restaurants are bad because they bring in people and traffic from outside Noe Valley. However, with the exception of one or two high-end restaurants serving dinner only, these are neighborhood establishments, from Panos' to pizza parlors.

It is contradictory to say these restaurants don't belong in Noe Valley, when it is almost entirely people from Noe Valley who frequent them. Our neighbors are the ones eating there!

If there is a traffic problem, then it should be addressed. If there are health issues, then they should be addressed via

came from Third Street and Eighth Street. At that point, another player interrupted to say that he believed most of the players were from Noe Valley and the Mission District. Paris shrugged his shoulders.

Another man sitting on the bench grew indignant that the *Voice* would want to do a story on the shooting. "What do you get out of doing this?" he asked. "A death is sacred. How would you like it if someone killed your brother, and people wrote about it?"

Two Recreation and Park employees were present the evening of the shooting, but Superintendent of Recreation Joel Robinson prefers that they not speak to the press.

"From our investigation, it appears that this incident was a planned killing, an assassination. And we don't want to put our employees in any kind of danger by having their names in the paper," said Robinson.

"We don't believe, however, that this

existing laws (although some of those who complain about restaurant odors and refuse remind me of the people who move in next to an airport and then sue over plane noise—after all, this is the city—what do people expect when living half a block off a neighborhood's main commercial strip?).

And if the issue is parking, smells, or noise, putting a cap on the number of restaurants will not make those problems go away, it will only keep them from getting worse. In each case, there are existing methods of dealing with the problem that don't involve heavily regulating the kinds of businesses that can operate along 24th Street.

If people quoted in the *Voice* article don't like the mix of stores on 24th Street, they should get together with their neighbors, publicize what they think the neighborhood needs, and see if someone cares to cater to their wishes. Better yet, they should open a store of their own and see if anyone else agrees.

Then they will have participated in the free marketplace and the inevitable change of neighborhoods (which they currently seem so afraid of).

Bill Barrett  
Twenty-second Street

## 24th Street Cafe's Tables Discourage Litter

Editor:

Your story in the last issue concerning the 24th Street Cafe caught my attention. It disturbs me to learn that there are forces at work to close one of my favorite neighborhood establishments.

A deli serving an unusual range of fare at reasonable prices, with tables where patrons can leave their trash and leftovers instead of scattering them along the street is a definite plus on 24th.

Who does this lawyer represent? Who stands to gain? Does somebody want that space?

Bob Lindner  
24-year Noe Valley resident

## Free to Read You and Me

Editor:


I just wanted to write and say what a great idea it is to sponsor a literary contest. [The winners will be published in the August 1995 issue of the *Noe Valley Voice*, and a special reading performed at Cover to Cover bookstore on 24th Street.]

Being a poet and writer, and a former small press editor and publisher, I have

was at all related to the Upper Noe Rec Center. It was a situation that ended up playing itself out there," he said. "It was not a gang turf war or anything like that."

Other than asking for increased police presence, Robinson said his department is not taking any unusual security precautions. "If someone is determined to walk into a building and shoot someone, I don't know if there really is anything you can do," he said.

Investigator Burns said he is following all possible leads, but is not getting much cooperation. Even Davis' family mem-



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# Players Hope Gym Murder Was a 'Fluke'

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hands afterwards."

Paris said he plays basketball almost every Monday evening at the recreation center, but that particular Monday he had band practice and couldn't make it. He did not recognize Davis by name, but thought that he would recognize a photo since he knows most of the regulars by sight.

"This is a good place to play basketball. There are a lot of good players. People come from other neighborhoods because the competition is so good," said Paris.

Paris said he lives near City College, but pointed out friends on the court who

been dismayed at the direction the small presses have taken. The number of contests has tripled since I quit publishing in 1989, but reader's fees have become a common practice, with editors and publishers often charging as much as \$10 and \$15 to enter such contests.

So I applaud the *Noe Valley Voice* for sponsoring a contest where no fees are charged.

A.D. Winans  
Clipper Street

*Editor's Note: Thank you for noticing, A.D. We considered charging a reader's fee, but didn't care for the practice, either.*

bers, who live in Hercules and Oakland, did not want to speak with police.

Witnesses described the assailant as a black male in his 20s, 5'11" tall and weighing about 180 pounds. He wore dark pants, a white and dark field jacket, and a baseball cap. His hair was in jerry curls, which Burns described as similar to ringlets.

If anyone saw a man of that description around the recreation center or getting into or out of a car in the area on the evening of May 22, he or she is encouraged to call Inspector Mike Burns or Inspector Nick Klimenko at 553-1145. □

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# Achtenberg Finds There's No Place Like Home (for Reinventing Government)

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and not much star quality about Achtenberg—not that those things seem to matter. It's highly unlikely you'd see Achtenberg donned in Black and White Ball attire, posing for a photo spread in the *Examiner Magazine* as Willie Brown did a month ago, the same weekend he announced his candidacy for mayor.

Nevertheless, the residents of Noe Valley seem enamored of their 45-year-old neighbor who moved here in 1972. More than 200 people jammed into the sanctuary of the Noe Valley Ministry on June 14 to hear Achtenberg speak and ably answer questions on topics ranging from the city budget to charter reform, commission appointments, and parking.

"She's from the neighborhood and people are fascinated by her," says Rick Hauptman, president of the Noe Valley Democratic Club, which sponsored the program. "This was the largest turnout we've ever had at one of our events."

When the *Voice* spoke with Achtenberg on a windy afternoon in early June, she had yet to move into her official campaign headquarters at 2275 Market St. (near 16th Street) and was using a downstairs room in her next-door neighbor's Hill Street home as a campaign office.

Since she arrived back from Washington, D.C., in late April, after resigning from her post as assistant secretary of fair housing and equal opportunity at the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), her days have been filled with fundraising, attending Democratic club meetings and special events, and reading reports and white papers on issues critical to San Francisco.

Her partner Mary Morgan, now a deputy assistant attorney general at the Department of Justice, and their 10-year-old son Benjamin will remain in Washington through the summer, although when we spoke, Achtenberg was anxiously awaiting a mid-June visit from them to check out schools for Benjamin and a possible job transfer for Morgan.

"It's great to be back in Noe Valley," Achtenberg says, however. "I love it here. There's no place like it. The area we lived in in Washington was actually quite nice



Mayoral candidate Roberta Achtenberg received a warm welcome from the "hometown" crowd at the Noe Valley Democratic Club meeting June 14. PHOTO BY BEVERLY THARP.

and very convenient, lovely single-family houses, but there was no character. I'd usually be back in San Francisco every six to eight weeks, and I'd walk down 24th Street and go say hi to Martha at the coffee store."

She's also kept up with a few Noe Valley controversies while in D.C., including the coffee wars and the renaming of Army Street to Cesar Chavez Street.

"The Starbucks thing is basically an outrage," she says, "the way they put a chain store in competition with Martha & Brothers and Spinelli, both of which are local companies. Did we really need one more coffee store?"

Although she supports the naming of a street after Cesar Chavez, "I'm told that the process left a little something to be desired," she says. "But I think Cesar Chavez was a wonderful person and is a very important historic figure, and I'm delighted we have a street named after him."

If you spend any amount of time at all with Achtenberg, you've got to conclude that her choice to run for mayor was carefully considered. Yet her decision to give up a high-profile job in Washington—"the best job I've had so far," she admits—to return to San Francisco in a long-shot bid to become mayor has both supporters and critics crinkling their brows.

There's a long pause after I ask the "why" question. She looks at me quizzically and answers, "I want to be mayor of San Francisco. I mean, what other reason would there be?"

"San Francisco is about to face one of the most extraordinary challenges it has had to face in perhaps 30 or 40 years," she adds. "Over the last two years, I have seen in Washington an attitude developing toward the cities and the people who live in them that is very frightening to me."

She continues, speaking slowly, methodically.

"I believe that cities will be forced to bear the brunt of this supposed Republican revolution. The fever to balance the budget is going to do great damage to the cities of America. And San Francisco is not going to be spared. Couple that with what Sacramento has already been doing to California's cities and counties over the last 10 years and we come to realize that cities face a great challenge and a tremendous threat."

"So this mayoral election is exceedingly important in my opinion. It's important nationally because it could mean the election of a progressive mayor. And it is important to us as San Franciscans because this city has so many resources and a relatively decent financial base. If any city can be saved in the midst of this turmoil, San Francisco can be."

The key to a transformation, according to Achtenberg, is neighborhood and community involvement. And she sees

the promotion of grassroots energy as one of the primary roles of the mayor.

"When I think about all the social policy innovation that used to be our hallmark—particularly in the middle to late '70s, when we were in our heyday in terms of community neighborhood-based activism and really harnessing constructive social programs as communities—I feel that we've lost that," she says.

"We need to recover that kind of spirit to try to address the pervasive social problems that are ours to deal with now."

"I think it is the job of the mayor of San Francisco in 1996 to encourage neighborhood activism, to foster it, not to control it, but to support it in ways that make

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*There's a long pause after I ask the "why" question. She looks at me quizzically and answers, "I want to be mayor of San Francisco. I mean, what other reason would there be?"*

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sense. Yes, we have to deliver street-paving services, and the Muni buses need to be made operational and they need to run on time so that you can get from Noe Valley to downtown in a predictable way. And we need to continue to deliver public health services to those who are most in need and on and on.

"But I think we are going to find that there is a better way to provide the constellation of social services that our people need and we as San Franciscans want to provide—that there are linkages and ways of creating mutual support that are neighborhood-based, that need to be revived and in some cases created anew."

So far, Achtenberg has taken on the role of the calm, reasoned candidate for mayor. She's been praised in the press for taking the high road instead of the mud-slinging route. And despite grumblings from some political insiders who view Achtenberg as the spoiler for causing a split in the progressive vote, Achtenberg says her campaign is "a happening thing."

She rattles off a litany of successes: The campaign just signed up its 500th volunteer; the staff has identified 5,000 Achtenberg voters by standing out on the corner of 18th and Castro, in front of Bell Market on 24th Street, and in front of Cafe Flore on Market Street.

Achtenberg's campaign was also the first to do a mailing (to 50,000 San Francisco voters). She says it netted four times the anticipated response.

"We got people writing back and saying I'll volunteer, I'll post a house sign,"

she says. "We received more than \$6,000 in checks. These aren't political givers—they are average citizens who wrote checks in \$10, \$15, and \$25 denominations. This is just the beginning."

She attributes the growing support to her "rise above it all" attitude.

"It's true that in the newspaper, for the most part, political reporters are focusing on the ethics of incumbents," she says. "That story will get old after a while, and, frankly, I also think that whoever fails to address the real issues that are on voters' minds does so at their peril. I don't think people want to be sold a bill of goods in this campaign. I think they really want it to be a forum for competing visions."

"Magic is not going to get us out of the fix we're in," she continues. "There will be no free lunch this time. It's going to take hard work and a real vision for how we can make it through if we're going to do the job of reinventing San Francisco."

At HUD, Achtenberg was second in command. When she arrived, the department was suffering from neglect. Employees lacked energy and direction. The department had been systematically underfunded, and housing complaints filed by the public would languish for months.

Achtenberg boosted morale, streamlined programs, and made sure there was money to do the job. If elected mayor, she aims to do more of the same.

"HUD had to reduce its work force first by 2,000," she says. "Then by another 2,000, and there's still another 3,500 to go, which is a significant percentage of the work force—it was about 13,000 when we first came. So we had to downsize, we had to retrain, we had to reorganize, we had to harness technology."

"Organizational principles should be applied to doing government's business, particularly in a municipal government like our own. I've done it and I can tell you that it works. It takes a tremendous amount of energy and focus. People have to learn how to do their jobs in new ways. Change is difficult, but if you create a road map and if you encourage people to do it, and if you reward them for having done it well, you can make those kinds of things happen."

If she is elected mayor—becoming the first open lesbian to hold such office in the country—one of Achtenberg's targets for reinvention will be the Assessor's Office, which has come under fire following an investigation by the *San Francisco Chronicle*. In a May 30 report, the *Chronicle* called the Assessor's Office "a bureaucratic wasteland.... The office does such a primitive job of assessing properties that [the city] could be losing as much as \$25 million in annual tax revenue."

As the first of 20 policy proposals she

Continued on Page 5

## The Entries Are In

Thanks to the hundreds of Bay Area writers who submitted manuscripts, the August 1995 issue of the *Noe Valley Voice* promises to be a gold mine of exciting summer reading.

*Voice* staff judges are fortifying themselves at local coffee emporiums for those late nights of reading until contest winners are notified July 20. You'll be able to read the results on Wednesday, Aug. 2, when the August issue featuring the winning poetry and prose is distributed in Downtown Noe Valley.

Also, mark your calendars. Cover to Cover Booksellers, at 3910 24th St., will host a reading party and toast to the winners on Friday, Aug. 4, 7 to 9 p.m. □

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# HELP US SAVE OUR HILLTOP!

A speculator has purchased one of the last open and wooded hilltops in Noe Valley. He plans to remove trees and to demolish the 115-year old farmhouse that stands on the very crest of Dolores heights at the southwest corner of 21st and Sanchez and replace it with 4 disproportionately huge houses, each with 5 bedrooms, 6 bathrooms and 3 stories above street level garages.

The Environmental Review Section of the Planning Department has issued a preliminary report (a "negative declaration") holding that this enormous development "could not significantly affect the environment." We, the **Neighbors to Save the Sanchez Hilltop**, will now appeal this decision—but we must have your support in our efforts either to maintain the area as an open space or, at the least, see that any new houses are "in context and scale with the established character" of the neighborhood (*Section 241 of the San Francisco Planning Code*).

### WHAT YOU CAN DO:

Come to 21st and Sanchez and see for yourselves the treasure that Noe Valley could lose. Then:

- Join us or give us your support by calling us at 647-9980. Give us your comments and leave your name, address and phone number.
- Write a letter to the Planning Department. (Call us and we'll give you details.)
- Fill out and return the coupon so we can inform you of upcoming hearings and other developments.

**To: Neighbors to Save the Sanchez Hilltop  
400 Hill Street  
San Francisco, CA 94114**

Please keep me informed about the proposed demolition of the 19th-century farmhouse and its replacement with 4 out-of-scale and out-of-character buildings.

NAME(S)

ADDRESS

PHONE

# No Pot of Gold At End of Double Rainbow

Continued from Page 1

150,000 cones a year." Though ice cream sales sagged in the late '80s, Double Rainbow compensated by offering low-fat and non-fat products like sorbets, he noted.

With Double Rainbow not long for this world, Rory's Twisted Scoop, which replaced Bud's at the corner of 24th and Castro, remains the only ice cream store on Noe Valley's main drag.

Roger Fong, who purchased Rory's seven months ago from its original owner, Rory Ward, was surprised to hear that Double Rainbow was closing. However, he doesn't expect an immediate increase in sales. "Double Rainbow has very dedicated customers. It'll take a long time for customers to switch over," he said.

Meanwhile, McFadden has been tight-lipped about a closing date for the store and its next occupant. However, after being tipped off by one of his employees, the *Voice* contacted Posh Bagels, based in Santa Clara, and learned that it had signed a lease with the McFadden family.

According to Posh President Jeffrey Ottovaggio, the bagel chain hopes to open its Noe Valley outlet by the end of August. "We hope this store will introduce us to San Francisco. We like catering to neighborhood-type crowds."

Though the Posh name may not be as familiar as Holey Bagel or Noah's, Ottovaggio says the enterprise, working under the name Baking Systems, Inc., has been in the bakery business since 1980. "We have set up bakeries and trained personnel for both Noah's and Semifreddi's," he explains.

Asked for comment about a potential



Residents should hurry and get their last licks at Double Rainbow ice cream parlor. The cool spot on 24th Street will soon be replaced by a bagel store. PHOTO BY CHARLES KENNARD.

bagel war heating up in Noe Valley, Melinda Loo, manager of Holey Bagel, on 24th Street since 1980, said she was less than thrilled at the prospect of competition a block away. But in her view Holey Bagel will rise to the top.

"They steam their bagels. We boil ours,

which is the traditional way. I think the community will prefer us over them," Loo said.

Whether it's bagels or ice cream, you have to sell a lot of product to afford a storefront on 24th Street. Though McFadden wouldn't say what his new tenant

would be paying, according to Bill Welsh, commercial real estate agent at Zephyr Realty, leases typically go for \$3 a square foot per month. For instance, he said, "they're trying to get \$3,500 for the Cork and Bottle," which has 1,100 square feet.

Sachar still hopes he can find a Noe Valley merchant with a soft spot for Double Rainbow. "We would love to have the opportunity to continue to sell our ice cream in Noe Valley. If an existing store wanted to put in a freezer and have a fountain, we would teach them what they need to know."

Bagels and ice cream, anyone? In the meantime, be sure to get your last licks at Double Rainbow. □

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# What's Wrong with Policy Wonks?

Continued from Page 3

plans to unveil during the course of the campaign, Achtenberg announced at the June 14 Noe Valley Democratic Club meeting that she proposes to combine the offices of controller, tax collector, assessor, and treasurer into one office—that of a chief financial officer, who would oversee all money issues. The officeholder would be appointed by the mayor and approved by the Board of Supervisors to a five-year term.

Achtenberg's plan, which would abolish the elected offices of treasurer and assessor, also calls for a bond measure to fund a more technologically advanced accounting system.

"If half of what was reported in the *Chronicle* is true in terms of the tens of millions of dollars being lost," Achtenberg says, "it seems to me that the mayor needs to insist on a complete revamping of the Assessor's Office from top to bottom, along with regular reports on how the restructuring is going, and be willing to provide the resources for making the kinds of technological advances to track all these properties."

"I would watch over that operation until it was functioning in a way that was not just satisfactory, but excellent, so that we might use the increased revenue to fund the important public services that San Franciscans want provided."

From the minute Achtenberg entered the race, her critics have leveled two con-

cerns about her ability to do the job of mayor—first, that she is out of touch with San Francisco issues because she's been in Washington for two years, and second, that, like her former boss, Bill Clinton, she's a policy wonk better suited to life inside the beltway. She strongly disputes both claims.

"Because I spent the last two years in the national government, going from city to city and looking at what other cities do, and trying to help them do community development work and build affordable housing and enforce the civil rights laws, that's put me out of touch with San Francisco?!" she asks incredulously.

"I think it's given me some perspective on San Francisco, and it's taught me some new ideas that I think San Franciscans can appreciate and understand. It's shown me what's great about San Francisco and also shown me where we might have a little room for improvement. I don't feel out of touch in the slightest."

"And what does that mean, 'policy wonk'? That I don't get anything done because I have ideas about how we might move forward? I think of myself as having been a very successful lawyer and law school dean and civil rights advocate. I had a string of accomplishments when I was a legislator on the Board of Supervisors. I worked well with my colleagues. At HUD, we completely reinvented the department and integrated public housing

*"Because I spent the last two years in the national government, going from city to city and looking at what other cities do, and trying to help them do community development work and build affordable housing and enforce the civil rights laws, that's put me out of touch with San Francisco?!"*

in Vidor, Texas, too. I put in place a program that housed 13,000 low-income families in L.A. right after the earthquake. I don't think there's anything shameful about having ideas about how government can work better and serve people better and how we're better off if we work together in common cause."

Finally, just in case it's been weighing on the minds of Noe Valley voters, Achtenberg tells the *Voice* that she and her family—who are possibly more frugal than a certain other candidate—will be able to live quite nicely on the \$139,000 mayor's salary.

"I can assure you that \$139,000 a year is not going to be a problem," Achtenberg says. "And yes, Mary will be happy to reveal her client list. And I promise not to take any outside income. And I drive a 1985 Volvo station wagon." □



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**Muni 1, Sunset Scavenger 0:** A J-Church streetcar heading south on Church broadsided a Sunset Scavenger garbage truck at Chavez-Army Street Friday morning, June 16. The truck, heading east toward Dolores Street, was knocked spinning into the telephone pole and newspaper boxes in front of Crystal Market. Drivers of both vehicles were sent to San Francisco General Hospital with apparently minor injuries. No passengers on the



J-Church were hurt, but traffic was blocked for an hour and a half, causing a backup of other Muni streetcars in both directions. A PG&E crew arrived at the scene within 45 minutes to repair the power pole, which was severed at its base and hanging from the power lines. It was not immediately clear which vehicle had run the stop sign.

PHOTOS BY NAJIB JOE HAKIM

## The Friends Refuse to Single Out 24th St. Cafe

By Denise Minor

After reviewing claims by some neighborhood residents that the 24th Street Cafe at 3853 24th St. was not in compliance with city zoning regulations, the residents' group Friends of Noe Valley has decided not to take legal action against the cafe's owners.

"We decided that this is not the way the Friends do things. We're not a vigilante group," said Friends President Cecile Lozano.

The Friends are concerned, however, that the lack of enforcement of zoning regulations, particularly of the moratorium on restaurants that was supposed to have gone into effect in the early '80s, will erode the character of 24th Street.

The group decided that it would tackle this issue by forming a committee to learn more about zoning and to monitor permit applications to the Planning Department.

"We're going to keep informed so that when someone goes in to apply for a permit, we'll find out what kind of business it is and make sure they comply [with zoning regulations]," said Lozano.

At the organization's May meeting at the Noe Valley Library, the Friends heard evidence presented by 29th Street attorney Henry Epstein that the 24th Street Cafe was actually a full-service restaurant created illegally in a spot zoned for a takeout delicatessen.

Epstein had been invited by then-President David Geren to update the Friends on his legal battle at the Board of Permit Appeals with another 24th Street eating establishment (Rustico to Go), and to offer advice for future action concern zoning violations on 24th Street.

"Zoning regulations are basically nonexistent because of nonenforcement," Epstein told the group. "The 24th Street Cafe is in flagrant violation."

He told the Friends he would represent them in Superior Court if they decided to take the cafe to court to force the city to enforce its zoning laws.

Cafe owner Joe Eadeh was shocked to learn of Epstein's allegations. He said the delicatessen had seating when he bought the business eight years ago and that the city gave him all the necessary permits to put in a stove hood.

Backed by numerous angry supporters, Eadeh arrived at the June Friends of Noe Valley meeting to demand that the members reject Epstein's proposal.

"We had 15 outraged people come in to the meeting," said Lozano. "So at the very beginning I assured them that we were not going to take any legal action."

Epstein said he learned soon after the May meeting that the Friends wanted to steer clear of the courts.

"I respect the decision of the Friends to pursue the legislative approach to this problem," he said. "But I don't know how

much good will come of it if the Planning Department doesn't get funds so it can enforce the laws.

"Even the clerks in the department say there is no money for enforcement or investigation," he continued. "So the community organizations are left with the job of reporting violations and pushing for enforcement. And that's not right."

Epstein said he would volunteer his services to the Friends to interpret zoning regulations and get information out of City Hall, if they were interested.

An article in the June *Noe Valley Voice* about the zoning battle drew the attention of the *San Francisco Daily Journal*, a law publication, which ran a June 8 profile of Epstein and his Noe Valley fight.

Epstein has heard the argument from many residents, and even from a member of the Board of Permit Appeals, that he should let market forces govern what businesses open or close on 24th Street.

"And I ask them if they think market forces should substitute for a planning process. If that's what they think, fine, then they should go to the Board of Supervisors and eliminate the planning code," he said. "But as long as we have a law, it should be enforced."

Epstein said he first got involved in the zoning battle when a businessman approached him after having put down money on an empty storefront in Noe Valley. "He wanted to open a restaurant, but

found out that because of the moratorium he couldn't get the permits, so he lost money he'd put down on the space," he said. "But then he noticed these other restaurants opening on 24th Street and wondered how that could happen."

Noe Valley attorney Claire Pilcher, a past president of Friends of Noe Valley, believes the Friends should organize some type of protest of the Planning Department's lack of enforcement.

"Ten years ago we did an inventory of all the illegal uses of property on and around 24th Street. We turned that list over to the Planning Department, and absolutely nothing was done," she said.

"In fact, we see even more illegal uses than we did then — not just second-story businesses, but third-story businesses. And we've gone way beyond the number of liquor licenses that can be issued in this neighborhood," said Pilcher.

Lozano said the Friends planned to meet with other neighborhood organizations to see whether a united front might make a difference. "One of us will contact the Coalition of Neighborhoods, and another is calling the [Noe Valley] Merchants Association," she said.

"We're going to do what we can to keep Noe Valley a friendly, family-oriented neighborhood." □



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# The Tour Bus Stops Here In Noe Valley

Written by Committee

Voice roving reporters Karen Topakian and Beverly Tharp conducted a completely unscientific and unrandom survey of Noe Valleons last month, asking the question: Where in Noe Valley do you like to take your out-of-town guests?

Leslie Thorndike and Jimmy Goetz, of Thorndike Travel on Castro Street, composed the most complete answer, so we'll print it first:

"We take people on a walking tour of Noe Valley, starting with a stroll along 24th Street to window-shop and have coffee at Spinelli's and a raisin roll from Bakers of Paris, or a freshly baked bagel from the Holey Bagel.

"Later we might have a nice lunch at Panos', or go for tea and sandwiches at Lovejoy's Antiques at Church and 24th. Or, as we did on our first visit to Noe Valley seven years ago, we might buy a baguette at one of our fine bakeries, some cheese from the Cheese Company, and have a picnic in one of our parks or on one of the many benches on 24th Street, which are perfect for 'people-watching.'

"After lunch, we'd take a drive around the streets of Noe Valley to look at the unique houses, finding time to drive up Duncan Street (which is very steep) toward the Diamond Heights Safeway and take a right at the top for an inspiring view of our city.

"For the evening, we'd have dinner out at one of our many great restaurants, then attend whatever fun and interesting event is being held at the Noe Valley Ministry, and afterwards go back to 24th Street for some entertainment at one of our wonderful neighborhood bars, or have ice

cream at Rory's, or coffee and conversation at Starbucks."

Eighty-two-year-old Cesar Chavez-Army Street resident Miriam Blaustein, Noe Valley's combination Mother Teresa/Mother Jones, would start out her tour of the neighborhood with the Noe Valley-Sally Brunn Library on Jersey Street.

"It's the center of Noe Valley. So much goes on there," she says. Besides, it has beautiful architecture, a garden, and a deck.

Like Thorndike and Goetz, Blaustein would stop by the Noe Valley Ministry and visit the children's playground at Douglass Park, but she'd add some other "Noe Valley" names to her list: "I would take them to the Noe Valley Community Store at 29th and Sanchez streets. It's very special because of the bulletin board and the nonprofit status.

"I'd also take them to the community garden near my apartment at Noe and Cesar Chavez. Then I'd take them to the neighborhood organizations, and have them read the *Noe Valley Voice*, particularly the back pages [class ads and calendar]." Why, thank you, Miriam.

"I do hope that Noe Valley never gets put on the Gray Line tours, though!" she laughs.

Most people the *Voice* interviewed, like David Hickey of Dirt Cheap Travel on 23rd Street, described the "beautiful hills and charming ambience of 24th Street" as our top attractions.

Preschool teacher Heidi Schaefer pointed out that one of the best panoramic views in the city is from 25th and Grand View (hence the name). But since she lives on a busy block of 24th Street, Schaefer can also send her visitors out her front door for a view of the passing parade.



Miriam Blaustein



Heidi Schaefer

Law student Susan Jerich would make a beeline to Firefly Restaurant at the top of 24th Street, but she'd hit the coffee and book shops too. "It's such a diverse neighborhood—gay, straight, old, young—it's fun to hang out here."

Some tour guides would reveal the hidden secrets of Downtown Noe Valley.

"I would take them to look at the fish at B-Tech Aquarium. It's one of only two places in the city that sells a certain kind of fish, but it's so rare I can't think of the name of it right now!" said Miguel de Freitas.

Accounting clerk Vanessa Herman would rather shop for clothes than fish, but she'd stay on 24th Street also, to take advantage of "its one-of-a-kind shopping."

Small business owner Joy Lovinger would take her guests out to eat at Bacco (24th and Diamond) and to Just for Fun gift store for souvenirs, "plus I'd go to the park where the dogs run." (She must be talking about upper Douglass Park, the only official dog run in the neighborhood.)

Says Vicksburg Street resident Douglas Legg, a transit planner, "I would direct them to 24th Street first, to the coffee shops and the bookstores, and to see the street life. But one of the reasons I really like Noe Valley is that it's so easy to do things on foot.

There's a house on 22nd between Castro and Noe which used to be a fire station, and I like to walk people by there."

Since we're nearing the end of our investigative piece, *Voice* Editor Sally Smith can't resist adding her two cents:

"I take my family and friends, and boxer Boychik as a hauler, on a walk up the Sanchez Street hill to 21st Street, to see the views in all four directions and to drool (sloher, in Boychik's case) at ex-



Douglas Legg

Mayor "Sunny Jim" Rolph's house—allegedly the place in the "suhurbs" where he kept his mistress during the Roaring '20s. (This fact has not been proven, of course, but who cares?)

"Then we've usually worked up enough sweat to go to Chloe's Cafe, What's for Dessert, Cafe Sanchez, Simon's Spanish Shop, or the taqueria if it's lunchtime—or Panos', Eric's, Swatdee, Noe's, or Little Italy if it's dinner.

"My stations of the cross on 24th Street are Joshua Simon for clothes, Martha's bench, the Rat and Raven (to point out where Finnegan's used to be), Xela Imports for people on your souvenir list who have many piercings, Just for Fun, Ecco or Out of Hand for big-ticket stuff, and lately the Planters Nursery, to pet the Weimaraner puppies.

"The secondhand stores on Castro and on Church are also good, particularly Homes of Charm and Lady Sybil's Closet. Then you can go to La Sirena Botanica for candles, and run a hock down the street to the jewelry and sports card shop.

"A big hit for all my out-of-town guests is the J-Church streetcar, which takes them from Downtown Noe Valley through Dolores Park to Downtown San Francisco (meaning Nordstrom's).

"When they come home, though, they all say the same thing: 'Can we go back to 24th Street before the end of the trip?'" Sure. □

Photos by Beverly Tharp.

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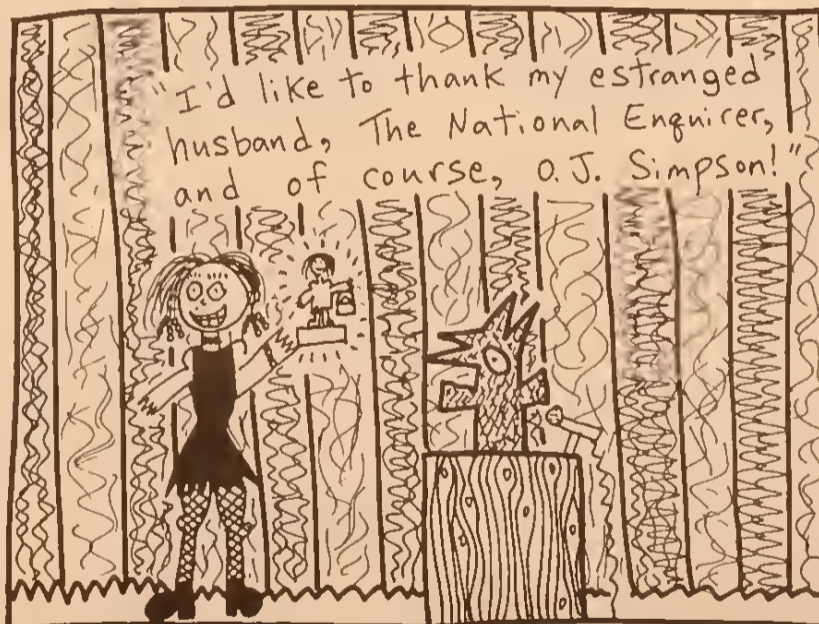
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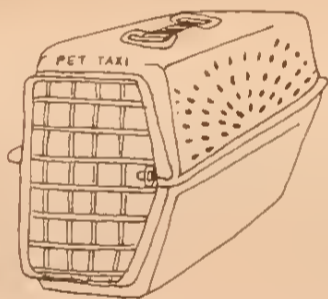
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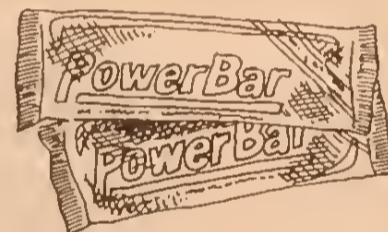


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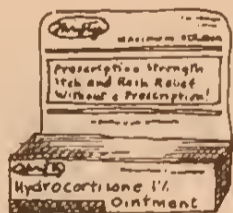


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# POLICE BEAT

## Things That Go Crash in the Night

By Officer Lois Perillo

Thanks to an alert Noe Valley resident, a 27-year-old man was arrested as he attempted to burglarize an unoccupied auto on May 18 at 2:40 a.m.

Officers Kevin Labanowski and John Keane of Potrero Station responded to a call from Clipper and Sanchez streets and, using the description given by the witness to police dispatch, detained a suspect. The man was subsequently identified by the witness and arrested for auto burglary, which is a felony, as well as for possession of burglary tools, a misdemeanor.

It turned out that the witness was first alerted to the crime in progress when he heard a loud noise, which caused him to look out his window and see the suspect running away from a parked car. The witness continued watching as the suspect returned and entered the car using a flashlight.

The suspect was caught because the witness checked out that "loud noise," then observed both suspicious behavior (running) and criminal behavior (entering the car), which prompted a call to police.

The sad part of this story is that the suspect, whose criminal history included 26 felony and 15 misdemeanor arrests, was taken to county jail, released a day later upon his "own recognizance," and given a May 24 court date in Department 11.

When he failed to appear, the judge issued a \$5,000 warrant for his arrest. So pay attention to any more "loud noises" in the middle of the night.

### One Robbery in May

There was one reported robbery within my area of Noe Valley during May, down from two in April and seven in March.

In the May incident, which occurred at about 3 a.m. on May 15, a taxi driver was robbed of money by a 30-year-old man who had entered his cab at Market and Page and asked to go to Market and Castro. When the cabdriver arrived at the requested destination, his passenger said, "Why don't you drive up the hill?"

As the cab approached Grand View and 24th, the suspect pulled out a gun and demanded money. The driver complied, and the suspect got out of the car and fled on foot in an unknown direction.

### Another Man with a Gun

Remember the 38-year-old man from the 1300 block of Church Street who was arrested for assault weapons possession in February of 1994 when he interfered with a bail bondsman who was arresting his 29-year-old girlfriend?

Well...I was just doing a routine check, and both their names popped up. The two were arrested for murder in the bludgeoning death of a Mission District pawnshop worker last fall and are scheduled for trial Sept. 11 in Department 22 (court nos. 1543725 and 1541985). Both suspects remain in custody pending the trial.

### Shots Fired into Cars

Homestead and 24th Street became the site of shots fired into two unoccupied vehicles on June 6 at about 10:45 p.m. At least four neighborhood residents phoned police to report the crime and provide witness information, including a suspect description and vehicle description.

Police units responded within three minutes of dispatch, but did not locate the suspect. Both targeted vehicles were towed for evidence processing, and 15 bullet casings were found and seized at the scene.

spoke with the owner of the targeted vehicles, who indicated his willingness to meet with the neighbors. Meanwhile, the community organized a meeting to address safety, which Sgt. Rick Schiff and I attended. The group decided to organize a follow-up meeting with the vehicle owner.

So far, the neighbors report, "it's been quiet" at Homestead and 24th.

### Yoo-hoo, Officer

A 33-year-old resident of the first block of Chattanooga Street has been arrested for being under the influence of a controlled substance.

On May 8 at about 6 p.m., Officers Jim McGrath and Mike Wilson were flagged down by a person at 23rd and Fair Oaks streets, who said the occupants of a blue jeep-like vehicle nearby appeared to be participating in "drug activity." The officers searched the area and located an unoccupied blue Suzuki on Chattanooga Street.

While they checked the vehicle, the officers were approached by the suspect, who exhibited signs of being under the influence of a drug. When they took him into custody, the officers discovered that the man had an outstanding Daly City warrant. They hooked him on both charges.

### Sharp Rise in Burglaries

There were 19 reported burglaries within my beat during May. (For comparison purposes, this part of Noe Valley recorded six burglaries in March.)

One burglary was of a school—Edison Elementary at 22nd and Dolores—one was of a restaurant, two were of apartments, three were of garages, and 12 were of houses or flats.

The burglaries all happened on Wednesday through Sunday, with the majority occurring on the weekend. However, there was no discernable pattern nor geographical clustering to the break-ins.

The most unsettling burglary was a "hot prowler," police jargon for a break-in

that takes place while someone is at home. On May 12 at about 2 a.m., a 43-year-old woman walked into her bedroom on Chattanooga Street to see a 30-year-old man attempting to climb in the window, which she'd left slightly open. She yelled and ran from the house to call police.

By the time police arrived, the suspect had fled with the woman's purse and could not be found. However, evidence collected at the scene may help to identify him.

Fortunately, that was the only "hot prowler" in the rash of burglaries. But residents should take extra precautions this summer to protect themselves and their property.

As the warm weather approaches, you will be tempted to leave that window or door ajar—thieves count on that behavior. In fact, the rising temperatures may be why Noe Valley experienced so many burglaries in May.

My suggestion is to install a window lock that permits the window to be locked in an open position.

A reminder to those who have electric garage door openers: Thieves can defeat the externally keyed variety. Residents should render the outside key port inoperable, or replace the key type with a digital pad.

Remember that thieves also count on your summer vacation. Make arrangements with a housesitter and tell your trusted neighbors of your extended absence. Leave emergency numbers. Use random or weekly timers for several lights and a radio.

Above all, have a good holiday and send a postcard. Until next time, be safe and I'll see you on patrol. □

*Officer Lois Perillo is a community police officer working out of Mission Police Station, 630 Valencia St. Her beat centers on 24th Street and extends from 21st and Grand View to Chavez-Army and Valencia streets. To contact her, call the station at 558-5400.*

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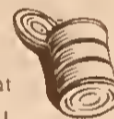
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# Library Earthquake Repairs Fail To Get Off The Ground

By Denise Minor

The earthquake-proofing scheduled to begin this summer at the Noe Valley Library has been postponed indefinitely, largely because a huge cost overrun in renovating the Chinatown Branch has emptied city coffers.

The tab for reconstructing the Chinatown Library on Powell Street jumped from an estimated \$4.9 million following the 1989 Loma Prieta Earthquake to \$9.1 million last month, eating up the funds earmarked for work on other branches, including the Noe Valley-Sally Brunn Library at 451 Jersey St.

Now, city officials will have to go back to the voters to ask for more money. If funding does become available, "Noe Valley is next on the list," according to Jorge Alfaro, program manager for the Library Earthquake Safety Program administered by the Department of Public Works. However, the earliest that Noe Valley repairs could be made would be 1997, he said.

"It makes me a little nervous," said Roberta Greifer, head librarian at the Noe Valley Branch. "If the building is dangerous, the staff and the public are at risk if we have an earthquake. As branch manager, I'd be responsible."

Two years ago, Noe Valley's branch was assigned a seismic hazard rating of 4, which on a scale of 1 to 4 is the most vulnerable to collapse in the event of an



Is this building a "3" or a "4" on the earthquake hazard scale? The 79-year-old Noe Valley Library on Jersey Street is slated for seismic tests this summer. PHOTO BY CHARLES KENNARD

earthquake. (Its prior rating, done in the mid-'80s, was a 3.)

At the time, renovation was scheduled to begin in June of 1995, using funds from a 1990 bond issue, which authorized \$332 million for seismic strengthening of 191 city buildings, according to Alfaro.

Funds also had been designated for library upgrades in 1988, when voters approved Proposition A, authorizing \$109 million for constructing the Main Library and for renovating the Sunset, Park, Presidio, Chinatown, and Mission branches.

Work at the Sunset, Presidio, and Park branches has been completed, said Alfaro, while the Mission and Chinatown library renovations are still under way.

"Now we are proposing a third bond issue," he said. "Our latest estimate is that we will need \$2.4 million for the libraries."

DPW's Library Earthquake Safety Program has until November to complete its seismic studies of the library buildings and firm up its estimate of repair costs. Its findings and those of other departments will be submitted to the Capital Im-

provement Advisory Committee, which will submit a bond measure for public vote in 1996 or 1997, said Alfaro.

In mid-June, the Board of Supervisors approved the last of the funding needed to complete the Chinatown Branch, begin work on the Richmond Branch, and complete seismic studies of nine other branches, said Acting Chief of Branches Marcia Schneider.

The cost overruns for renovations came in part because DPW did not have extensive experience in this type of renovation, said Schneider. "Originally [as part of Prop. A], the city set aside only \$5 million to seismically upgrade all branch libraries. That was quite unrealistic."

Now, the department is much more experienced and has better evaluation and testing methods, she added.

"It shows that even the experts don't have all the figures down right," said Greifer. She also pointed out that a number of local residents were skeptical about Noe Valley's "4" hazard rating, which means the building could suffer a "partial

or total collapse" in the event of a major earthquake, of magnitude 7.3 or higher.

"In the 1989 quake, not a hook fell from the shelves. We did notice a few cracks afterwards," said Greifer. "But we always understood that this branch was built on bedrock."

Some neighborhood residents approached respected Noe Valley architect Albert Lanier, who designed the library deck and garden in 1977, and asked his opinion of the city's engineering report on the Noe Valley Branch.

In June, Lanier said he had passed the study on to his structural engineer and was waiting for a report back.

"The important thing here is to get a second opinion," he said.

Meanwhile, speculation rose at a May Library Commission meeting that, given the cost overruns at the Chinatown Branch, it might be cheaper to build a new Noe Valley branch than renovate the old one.

"Would it be cheaper to build a new library? I don't know yet," said DPW's Alfaro. "But when we make the decision, we would be sensitive to the concerns and preferences of the neighborhood."

Greifer said she had heard similar speculation, and believes there are issues that weigh in on either side. Some residents are sentimentally attached to the 79-year-old structure, with its large windows and classical terra-cotta detailing on the facade. "On the other hand, this branch was not designed for the computer age. There are not enough electrical outlets, and there is not enough room upstairs," said Greifer. "There are technical difficulties."

Schneider wanted to assure neighborhood residents that no decisions to raze the branch and replace it with a new building would be made without extensive public input. She also wanted to warn library patrons that more earthquake safety testing would take place at the Noe Valley Library this summer.

"They will try to do as much work as possible during hours when it is the least disruptive," she said. "But there will be some noise and some distractions." □



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If you would like to learn more about St. Paul's Elementary School, we invite you to contact our principal, Sr. Ann Cronin, BVM, at 648-2055.



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**The Sluggers of Upper Noe.** Head Coach Kevin Black reports that the 8-and-under Zephyrs (sponsored by Zephyr Real Estate on 24th Street) "blew over" their opponents in the Pinto Division of the San Francisco Spring Youth Baseball League. Way to go, team. (front row) Zachary Levenberg, Jeremy Black, Daniel Nemiroff, Alejandra Huss, Jeremy Peritz; (middle row) Ivan Eric, Kazimier Buryn, Enrique Reyes, Cuvry McLinnin; (back row) Kevin Black, Jack Felton, Matthew Stewart, Gregory Black (mascot), Assistant Coach Alexander Ruskin. Missing from photo: Julian Gourd and Aaron Rowland. PHOTO BY VICTORIA BLACK



**Wild Things, You Make Your Bats Swing.** Upper Noe Rec Center's Wild Things, the 12-and-under team sponsored by Zephyr Realty, won the city's Brown Division championship June 17, by defeating West Sunset Playground 18-5. The champs are (front row) Toshi Ohta-Shepard, Brian Russell, Anthon Black, Kelvin Del Curto; (middle row) Jake Arbunch, Mario Sandina, Teddy Young, Antwan Caplan; (back row) Assistant Coach Mark McMillan, Eduardo Sobalvarin, Graysm Ward, Kevin Black (team president), Nayo Fuentes, Stefan Gartrell, and Head Coach Derek Grey. Missing: Nuri Aknese. PHOTO BY VICTORIA BLACK

## Meet Your New Librarian

The Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey St., would like to officially introduce Cornelia Van Aken-Sanks, the new part-time reference librarian who joined the library staff in mid-April.

Van Aken-Sanks, 45, handles both children's and adult books, and is currently working on bolstering the young adult collection.

"It's wonderful," she says of her new job. "Noe Valley has such a small-town atmosphere, but with a cosmopolitan flavor. People are very friendly and very patient. And the Noe Valley Archives are quite unique."

Although she has always wanted to be a librarian, Van Aken-Sanks didn't graduate from library science school at San Jose State until last December. This is because she had to make a choice 25 years ago between becoming a librarian or a dancer. She wanted to do both, but decided that it made more sense to pursue the dance career first. This she did, as a professional dancer with the Aman Folk Ensemble in Los Angeles.

Now she is finally following her other career path, and likes it so much that she doesn't even mind the commute from San Jose, where she lives with her husband and 14-year-old twin sons.

As a reference librarian, Van Aken-Sanks works mainly with the public. "My job is really fun," she says. "I love books, and I enjoy helping people find what they want." Her knowledge also extends to the world of computers, so she is happy to help patrons find information online, too.

If you want to drop by to say hello, the best time to catch her is on Saturdays or Tuesday and Wednesday evenings. The branch number is 695-5095.

## Win a Trip to Hawaii for \$2

Bill Drypolcher of Zephyr Real Estate has jumped on the merchant bandwagon to help raise money for the Noe Valley Ministry's roof repair fund. He was just hanging out at the office one day trying to think of ways to support his neighborhood when he hit on the idea of holding a fundraising raffle for the Ministry. To get the ball rolling, he offered to donate the price of a trip to Hawaii as first prize.

Drypolcher's co-worker, Pauline Proschan, then stepped across the street to run the idea past her friend, Sharyl Hicks, at Travel Time. Hicks was so enthusiastic that she offered to put the package together and came up with a one-week stay for two at a hotel in Waikiki.

Proschan and Hicks then took their plan down 24th Street to Panos' Restaurant, where owner Vi Gianaras offered to donate a set of four dinner-for-two gift certificates.

# SHORT TAKES

"This is just like neighbors getting together over the back fence to figure out how to help a friend," said the Ministry's Raise the Roof campaign coordinator, Dawn Summers.

Other prizes include two sets of tickets to the Noe Valley Chamber Music's Sunday afternoon concert series, a gift basket from Common Scents, and a gift certificate from Cover to Cover bookstore.

Raffle tickets are \$2, or three for \$5, and will be on sale at 24th Street stores after the Fourth of July.

The drawing will be held at a party on Aug. 18 from 4 to 6 p.m. at the Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St.

"Plans and a budget for the roof work will also be announced," she added. "This is an exciting time for us, and we hope to see you all there. But of course, you need not be present to win!"

## Photos Capture Nagasaki

Documentary filmmakers and Noe Valley residents Chris Beaver and Judy Irving will showcase their latest tour de force, "Nagasaki Journey: The Photographs of Yosuke Yamahata," from July 19 through Sept. 3 at the Ansel Adams Center for Photography.

"Nagasaki Journey" features 60 black-and-white photographs taken in Nagasaki, Japan, the day after the Aug. 9, 1945, bombing of the city. The exhibit will be part of the international observance of the 50th anniversary of the nuclear bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Yamahata, a 28-year-old photographer on assignment with the Japanese Army, was sent to photograph the aftermath of the Aug. 9 bombing less than 24 hours after it occurred. He was accompanied by writer Jun Higashi and painter Eiji Yamada, and photographed the destruction from dawn to late afternoon.

According to Beaver, Yamahata's more than 100 photographs are "documentary photography at its best—from a photo of a mother and child to a view of the city. They are the most extensive and comprehensive images illustrating the effects of a nuclear bomb."

Beaver and Irving first discovered the photographs while making their Emmy Award-winning documentary film about nuclear weapons production, *Dark Circle*, in 1982.

"I thought of the idea for the show in 1992 or '93 when I saw the advertisements for the stamps commemorating the 50-year anniversary of the end of World War II while I was waiting in line at the Noe Valley Post Office," said Beaver.

Although several of Yamahata's pho-

tos have been seen in books and shows, this is the first time the collection will be shown in its entirety. Beaver and Irving have also created an exhibition book to accompany the show, as well as a film that will premier on Saturday afternoon, Aug. 5, at the San Francisco Exploratorium.

The Ansel Adams Center for Photography is located at 250 Fourth St. For more information, call 495-7000.

## Opera and Strings

Classical music lovers are in for several treats this summer, beginning on Thursday, July 6, when countertenor Brian Asawa, accompanied by Peter Grunberg on piano, will give his only 1995 Bay Area concert at Everett Middle School, 450 Church St., at 8 p.m.

Asawa has performed with the San Francisco Opera, the Metropolitan Opera, and Opera de Lyon, and is a winner of the Richard Tucker Music Foundation Award and the Placido Domingo Operalia Competition. He will perform works of Purcell, Scarlatti, Cavalli, Handel, Mozart, and Schubert.

The concert is a benefit for the artists-in-residence program at the School of the Arts, an alternative public high school in San Francisco. Patrons' tickets are \$50 and include reserved seating and a post-concert reception with Asawa at La Traviata Restaurant, 2854 Mission St. between 24th and 25th streets. Regular adult tickets are \$25; seniors and students, \$15.

For further information call Ellen Bunning at 824-8085.

Later in July and August, Jean-Philippe Rameau's *Pièces de Clavecin* will be the centerpiece of two concerts at the Noe Valley Ministry, featuring Elizabeth Blumenstock on violin, Steven Lehning on viola da gamba, and Elaine Thornburgh on harpsichord.

The first concert, on Saturday, July 22, will feature the music of Rameau, Marais, LeClair, and Balbastre. The second, on Saturday, Aug. 12, will present works by Rameau, Marais, and François Couperin.

Both performances begin at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$14 for adults, and \$12 for students and seniors. For reservations call 387-6890.

## Thumbs Up for Mother's Milk

If you're concerned that breastfeeding may be going out of style, now is the time to sign up for La Leche League International's Aug. 5 World Walk for Breastfeeding.

The walk is held in conjunction with

World Breastfeeding Week, Aug. 1 to 7, which promotes the natural art of breastfeeding and is supported by the World Alliance for Breastfeeding Action, the World Health Organization, and UNICEF.

The Noe Valley contingent of World Walk will meet at 2 p.m. at Natural Resources, a childbirth information center located at 4081 24th St. Participants will stroll through the neighborhood and wind up at Douglass Park, 26th and Douglass streets, for a potluck dinner.

If you would like to sponsor a walker with a tax-deductible donation, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to La Leche League of San Francisco, P.O. Box 460566, San Francisco, CA 94146-0566, to receive a pledge brochure. You may also request an order form for purchasing canvas tote bags and tee shirts in both adult and children's sizes. Walkers worldwide are expected to raise over \$200,000.

Noe Valley walkers or sponsors can call Susan Condon at 282-7816 for details.

## Let's Get Metaphysical

Join in an evening of discussion at the Noe Valley Ministry on Saturday, July 15, at 8 p.m., with Bob Frissell, author of *Nothing in This Book Is True, But It's Exactly How Things Are* (Frog Press, 1994), subtitled "The Esoteric Meaning of the Monuments on Mars."

According to Grey Henry James, who will interview Frissell and lead the audience in a discussion to follow, Frissell's book is "a compendium to the Flower of Life workshops, which stem from a self-improvement breathing technique known as rebirthing. Rebirthing creates an increased flow of energy in the body, which brings out suppressed feelings."

Frissell is an experienced rebirthing instructor, says James, and his hook, now in its third printing, "takes the reader on a journey leading to higher consciousness by way of the 'merkaba,' a crystalline structure that surrounds the human body, and sacred geometry."

Tickets will be on sale in advance at Aquarius Records, 3961 24th St., for \$9, or at the door for \$10.

"Come join me and this interesting gentleman," says James, "and learn more about the Flower of Life workshops, the coming pole shift, news of the secret government, and the ascended masters."

*Nothing in This Book Is True, But It's Exactly How Things Are* will be on sale for \$12.95 at the end of the evening. The book is also available at Lodestar Books, located at the corner of Market and Noe.

This month's Short Takes were written by Jane Underwood and Karen Topakian.



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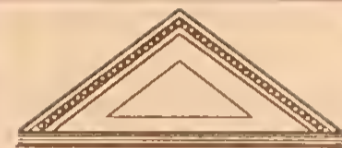


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# Jerry Lewis: The People's Car Guy

By Michele Lynn

Noe Valley resident Jerry Lewis isn't the goofy comedian who played Dean Martin's sidekick in the movies and who now hosts the annual Muscular Dystrophy Telethon. Our Jerry Lewis has his own claim to fame.

Lewis runs San Francisco Auto Repair Center, the only car repair shop in the Bay Area that offers auto repair classes and, for a small membership fee, allows people to fix their cars at the garage.

Car owners can sign up for a six-week course in "Basic Auto Mechanics for Men and Women," which Lewis teaches, or enroll in a more specialized class in Volkswagen repair, taught by 30-year veteran Volkswagen dehugger Terry Hogan.

The beginning auto mechanics class, which meets on Monday evenings from 7 to 10 p.m., combines lectures and hands-on work, and covers all basic auto systems, including cooling and electrical, oil and lubrication, brakes, overheating, and batteries and jumpstarting.

"We spend two out of six classes actually working on cars," Lewis notes. "In one class we do tune-ups, and in the other oil and filters."

His students, about half of whom are women, also get tips on emergency troubleshooting—what to do if the car won't start or suddenly conks out—and on how to buy a used car.

Those who don't mind a little grease under the fingernails can also become members of S.F. Auto Repair, at a cost of \$5 a day, \$10 a month, or \$25 a year. Members make appointments to use the center's garage at 611 Florida St. near 18th Street, to work on their cars for \$1



Chattanooga Street resident Jerry Lewis demystifies auto mechanics for both men and women at his homey garage (complete with Grateful Dead posters) in the Mission. PHOTO BY NAJIB JOE HAKIM

four neighborhoods — Potrero Hill, Bernal Heights, the Mission, and about 25 to 50 percent from Noe Valley," he says.

One satisfied Noe Valley customer, cartoonist Bill Griffith, featured Lewis in a Zippy the Pinhead strip, which ran in the *San Francisco Examiner* last February.

The ambience of the garage, Lewis speculates, appeals to the Noe Valley crowd. Lewis has festooned the walls with Grateful Dead posters, as well as assorted political and environmental flyers that reflect his left-leaning politics and community involvement—he gives free or reduced rates, for example, to activist groups such as the San Francisco Mime

small business too. He said to me, "Don't you know when you own your own business you only have to work half a day? You get to choose whether it's the first 12 hours or the second 12 hours!"

"Even when I'm not at the garage, I spend a lot of time working," he admits. He follows up every job with a phone call three weeks later, works until 11 p.m. teaching the Monday night classes, and puts out a quarterly newsletter for his clients.

When someone asks Lewis to recommend a good car, he says his answer "depends on what they want—what size car, automatic or manual transmission, etc. I

48, has been accumulating auto savvy since 1974, when he dropped out of law school and signed up for an auto mechanics training program in Brooklyn.

"I initially thought of it as a hobby," he says, "but I've been doing it for a living ever since."

After finishing the training, he began working with a friend who had started a collectively run garage known as the Co-op Garage of Brooklyn. "It was similar to the shop I have now, in that we let people work on their own cars there."

A year later, he left the Big Apple to team up with a friend and run "a backyard garage" in Northampton, Mass.

In 1976 Lewis moved to San Francisco with his girlfriend, Kathy Broner, whom he later married. In 1977 he and Kathy settled in their Chattanooga Street flat. They became parents six years ago, and Lewis is a doting dad who eagerly proffers snapshots of his adorable kindergarten, Maria.

He's obviously content to lead a laid-back, low-profile existence, in the neighborhood where he has resided for almost two decades.

"My 15 minutes, or seconds, of fame," he laughs, "was when about seven or eight years ago a TV show called something like *Prime Time People* filmed me for a 30-second segment on people with famous names."

More recently, others have stepped into the limelight. "The first customer who came in today was named James Brown," Lewis points out. "The second person who dropped off his car was Stephen King."

"And Jerry Lewis," chimes in one of his mechanics, "was here to greet them."

For more information about San Francisco Auto Repair Center, call Lewis at 285-8588. The next basic auto mechanics class (\$90) begins on July 10. The next Volkswagen class (\$75) starts July 11. □

## ZIPPY



## "VERY JERRY"



## BILL GRIFFITH



an hour (if they bring their own basic tool set) or \$1.50 an hour (if they need to borrow tools).

The membership entitles them to use the shop's special tools, such as a timing light, floor jack, or extra-large wrench, at no extra charge. If they need to ask the center's mechanics for help, they pay the regular \$65 an hour rate, but can contract for as little as five minutes.

Lewis runs a tight ship, though, and members must agree to the shop's 17 rules, one of which says, "Working on your car here is a privilege, not a right.... Keep in mind that we consider the membership operation a community service, and we like doing it, but we do not really make any profit on it.... We expect all members to be cooperative, helpful, friendly, and pleasant when using our facilities."

Last year, S.F. Auto Repair Center won a *San Francisco Bay Guardian* "Best of the Bay" award for being the "Best Place to Work on Your Car." The judges applauded Lewis' shuttle service for customers, as well as the free car washes the center offers on good weather days.

According to Lewis, the shuttle service doesn't have to go far to ferry carless clients.

"Most of our customers come from

Troupe and Food Not Bombs.

"I'm not a member of any organized party," he maintains. "But I grew up as a red diaper baby in a communist-socialist household. I went to protest marches with my parents in the 1950s to ban nuclear weapons. I remember going on a march for integrated schools in 1954. During the Vietnam War, I was an antiwar activist."

But aside from its reputation as an "alternative" auto repair shop, S.F. Auto Repair's "biggest asset is that people feel we run an honest shop, and we help to demystify automobiles and auto repairs," says Lewis.

"We don't use technical terms or abbreviations more than necessary. We try to have every customer leave here with the feeling that they understand what we explained to them and why the bill costs so much. I don't claim to be a lot cheaper than other garages, because we're not, but we treat people honestly and fairly, which is a way of empowering them."

The average price for a basic tune-up at the center is \$120; major tune-ups run \$250. A standard brake job is \$120.

Lewis has a staff of 20 women and men, but he still works 12 hours a day, four days a week.

"I have a friend," he says, "who runs a

tend to favor Japanese cars. I'm partial to Hondas, Nissans, and Toyotas because they seem to need work less often than most other cars, and when they need work, they seem to be less expensive."

"I advise against French cars, British cars, and Italian cars, unless you love the car and understand it. We like Volvos a lot, but a lot of people can't afford them."

Lewis drives a BMW motorcycle, "but when I have my daughter with me or it's raining," he says, "I drive a '79 Mazda RX-7. Our family car is a Chrysler LeBaron convertible."

The most common car problems have to do with "drivability," Lewis says, as in stalling or not accelerating properly. "We see lots of cars that need brake jobs and clutch jobs because of San Francisco hills," he says.

But he adds that many problems stem from a lack of preventive maintenance.

"If people do nothing else on their car, they should check the oil once a month, change the oil every 3,000 miles, and have their brakes inspected at least once a year even if they are working perfectly fine."

"And don't drive if the oil light is on or if the car is overheating. We see people who do that and they can destroy the engine."

A native of Queens, New York, Lewis,



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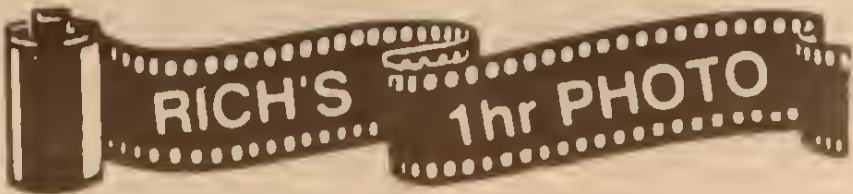
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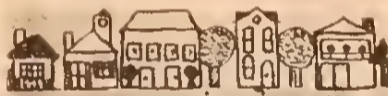
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# Episcopal Nuns' Actions Speak Louder Than Words

By Lee Hopkins

Most people assume that monks and nuns belong only to the Roman Catholic Church, but monastic orders exist in many other churches, from Eastern Orthodox to Anglican.

One order of seven nuns, the Community of St. Francis, has flourished in Noe Valley for more than 20 years, having settled here in 1974. They are the Franciscan sisters of the Episcopal Church—the American branch of the Church of England, now known internationally as the Anglican Communion. (Their male counterparts, an order of Franciscan monks, live at the San Damiano Friary, near Dolores Park.)

The Episcopal Church of San Francisco is headquartered in the imposing Grace Cathedral on Nob Hill, and Noe Valley's Episcopal parish is centered at Holy Innocents Church on Fair Oaks Street, the oldest Episcopal structure in the city and one of the loveliest.

The Community of St. Francis, however, is located in a modest house at 3743 Cesar Chavez (Army) St., between Dolores and Guerrero. The 1930s Mediterranean-style structure blends in with all the other homes on the block, and is identified only by a small sign in the recessed entryway.

The sisters, too, blend unobtrusively into the neighborhood. They usually dress in "regular" street clothes, except on formal church occasions when they wear brown robes.

Sister Pamela Clare, who has been with the Community of St. Francis for 17 years and who is currently the order's Minister Provincial—its chief administrator, a rotating position—will be the first to note that she and her six colleagues do not fit the stereotype of nuns. They are definitely not "recluses," she says.

Over coffee, in a pleasant living room accented by a fine collection of classical recordings, Sister Pamela Clare explains that there are three orders of Franciscan life—the First Order, which works on the social firing line, the Second Order, which is comprised of cloistered contemplatives, and the Third Order, which is made up of people who take Franciscan vows but continue their careers in the outside world. A member of the Third Order, she notes with a smile, may have delivered your pizza last night. (Desmond Tutu, archbishop of South Africa, is the most well-known member of this order.)

Noe Valley's Community of St. Francis is part of the First Order, which was founded by St. Francis of Assisi, the 13th-century mystic. A spoiled rich boy, St. Francis horrified his family when he left



Members of Holy Innocents Episcopal Church gathered in June to commemorate Sister Jean's silver jubilee, 25 years in the service of the church. Pictured from left are Sisters Pamela Clare, Jean, and Elizabeth Ann; Associate Reverend Roderick Thompson; Sister Cecilia, Reverend Armand Kreft; and Sister Ruth. PHOTO BY BEVERLY THARP

his life of moneyed ease to follow his vision of serving those who had fallen through the cracks of society.

According to Sister Pamela Clare, the nuns of the Community of St. Francis also seek to help the helpless, with no strings or judgments attached. They do this mainly through direct action, guided and tempered by prayer and meditation.

The sisters seek out work environments where they feel they are most needed, she says. They work in soup kitchens and with AIDS patients, as well as with immigrants, the elderly, and children. They also do counseling and conduct healing and prayer sessions.

Sister Pamela Clare and her six colleagues are a study in diversity of age and background. Prior to joining the order (the minimum age is 21), they pursued vocations ranging from anthropology and law to teaching and music.

Sister Pamela Clare grew up in a family of no particular piety. Her father was a nominal Episcopalian, and her mother was a tentative Methodist. She says she did not discover her spiritual path until she went away to college, where she later obtained a doctorate in anthropology. Seventeen years ago, at the age of 30, she completed the seven-year process of working her way from novice to nun.

Sister Catherine Joy, who is ordained and thus functions as both a priest and nun, is currently cloistered in the Poor Clare Community in England, where she pursues her order's specification of spiritual exercises. She trained as a professional pianist at London's Royal Academy of Music before taking her vows, and went on to run a ministry for seamen, as chaplain to the Port of Oakland.

Sister Ruth works as resident manager of the Family Link, a hostel for families of AIDS patients and the only facility of

its kind in San Francisco. Sister Cecilia is a Minister General of the Anglican Church, and as such has a worldwide venue.

Sister Jean, a native of England who celebrated her 25th anniversary as a nun on June 7, says simply that she "serves as needed." One of the original founding members of the Noe Valley Community, she enjoys working with children, but has often hired out as a housecleaner to help the sisters make ends meet.

In fact, all the sisters have done housecleaning as necessary, since they receive no outside financial support, except for an occasional donation. They devote most of their time to tending the poor, sick, and disenfranchised members of society.

The Community of St. Francis does not keep canonical hours—the ancient, round-the-clock schedule of prayer. A typical day begins with prayer and mass, followed by breakfast and housework. Then each sister goes to her respective job. Those who can do so return at noon for services held in the simple room that serves as a chapel. They pray together four times a day, when schedules permit.

It's a simple but busy life, based largely on St. Francis' tenet, "Preach the gospel at all times. If necessary, use words."

The Community of St. Francis welcomes inquiries, visitors, and applicants to the order. Sister Pamela Clare may be reached at 824-0288.

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# Bob Davis Was and Iz Touting the Idealism of The '60s

By Steve Steinberg



Bob Davis, pictured here with best friend Mac Duff, just published a comic novel, *Iz*, about a San Francisco teenager grappling with life's big questions. PHOTO BY CHARLES KENNARD

Iz has a problem. Who's Iz? you say. Iz is Isador Aronson, the main character in a new comic novel by Noe Valley author Robert Davis. (The book, *Iz*, is published by Lost Books Press.)

What's his problem?

According to Iz, the problem is, "I wanted to be an operator like my father... I didn't want to be a sucker. But everything I did, I kept turning into a sucker."

With these opening lines, Davis recounts Iz's adventures as a 13-year-old adolescent growing up in San Francisco's Sunset District during the late 1960s.

Iz is confronted with a series of moral dilemmas, chief among them whether to be a nice guy, a decent person—as is his natural inclination—or a hustler like his father. He also has to decide whether to allow his manipulative father to exploit his talents.

Iz is something of a musical prodigy who is naturally drawn to the piano. His father thinks the accordion has many more commercial possibilities, however; so he buys one for his son and pressures him into taking lessons.

Iz hates the accordion, but in various comic situations throughout the novel, he finds himself having to play awful pop music on the dreaded instrument.

The teenager's angst is framed by the misadventures of his wacky, extended family. There's one uncle who has too many wives, another who collects cockroaches, another who has religious visions, and yet another who wears dresses.

And, of course, there's grandma, who is wont to have chats with visitors from outer space.

All the while, the Vietnam War is raging, intensifying the social pressures felt by everyone in a world undergoing rapid change.

Davis, 53, recalls that wrestling with moral dichotomies was a common preoccupation in the '60s: Should you be a greedy corporate type or go off and try to

save the world?

But such questions are just as relevant today.

"Young people these days," says Davis, "can look out at society and see the same problems that existed in the 1960s. The same choices exist for young people."

"As we get older, we gloss over [society's] problems and rationalize—we lie to ourselves. We make all kinds of compromises and call that being an adult."

Although the character Iz, like Davis, is half-Jewish, Davis says the similarity ends there.

"I was writing to communicate experiences that were important to me, but were not [necessarily] autobiographical. What I wrote reflected my way of perceiving the world."

*Iz* is Davis' second novel. His first book, *Kimura* (Walker Books), was a murder mystery, also set in San Francisco during the Vietnam era.

Published in 1989, *Kimura* was outwardly about an attempt, some 30 years after the fact, to solve the murder of an Asian American and clear the name of the man who was executed for the crime.

But Davis also structured the plot to delve into society's changing attitudes toward Asians in the years between World War II and the Vietnam War.

Writing is something that comes naturally to Bob Davis and is extremely enjoyable for him.

"I'm a storyteller. I love to tell stories. And if I can tell a good story, that gives

me great pleasure."

Born and raised in San Francisco (in the Sunset, of course), Davis graduated from Abraham Lincoln High School, then went on to obtain a degree from San Francisco State and a teaching credential from the University of California, Berkeley.

Since 1972 he has been a teacher in the San Francisco Unified School District, currently teaching honors and advanced-placement English literature at prestigious Lowell High School.

Some of Davis' students have read his books, one student actually telling him that *Iz* was the best book she'd ever read.

*Iz* has also been reviewed favorably in the Lowell High School newspaper.

Davis notes that students can readily identify with *Iz* since the book revolves around a teenager.

Some people have even compared *Iz* to J.D. Salinger's 1950s coming-of-age novel *The Catcher in the Rye* (a book Davis teaches to his students).

While being "absolutely flattered" by such a comparison, Davis says he definitely made no attempt to fashion his book after Salinger's and "would not make that comparison myself."

Davis' own literary influences are eclectic, ranging from Franz Kafka and Isaac Babel to Southern writer Flannery O'Connor.

What ties these writers together for Davis is their deep moral sense. "They write what has been called 'moral fiction,'" he says, exploring the large philosophical questions that one can live or die by.

Married for 21 years, Davis and his wife, Carole, have three children and live on the border between Noe Valley and Glen Park.

Having resided in the area for 20 years, Davis is especially fond of 24th Street and its coffeehouses. His favorite is the Meat Market near Castro, which he says is a great place for writing and for meeting other writers.

Davis actually wrote *Iz* several years ago, but it took him a while to find an appropriate publisher.

He notes that many writers, because of the commercial nature of the book publishing business, have little control over the distribution of their work.

"Publishers don't do much for your book," he says. "They don't promote it unless it's a blockbuster, written by someone with huge name recognition, like Stephen King."

"Books that don't fall into this category are very quickly remaindered [sold off by publishers at very low prices to wholesalers] in order to avoid taxes on inventory. They just disappear from bookstore shelves."

As a consequence, "it has become very hard for quality literature to find its way," says Davis. "Anyone who aspires to write good literature is really up against it, between TV and chain bookstores."

After *Kimura* Davis resolved "to go independent." He eventually hooked up with Lost Books Press, a newly formed publishing cooperative consisting of several Bay Area writers. *Iz* is actually the first book to be put out by Lost Books Press, and Davis hopes that it will achieve greater circulation.

In terms of public recognition, he says, the book "needs to grow gradually."

In the meantime, Davis has several other writing projects in the works, including a political thriller, another novel, and some short stories.

But if you are looking for good summer reading fare, check out *Iz*, now available at Cover to Cover and Phoenix bookstores on 24th Street. □

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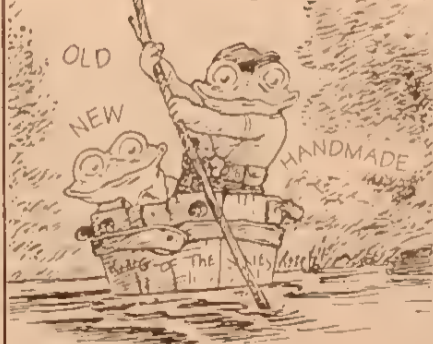
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Noe Valley Portal. A lamp to light the way on Church Street. PHOTO BY BEVERLY THARP

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# STORE TREK

By Beverly Tharp

Whether you're out for a stroll or riding the J-Church line, keep an eye peeled for two new Church Street businesses. In one you'll find some charming chachkes for your home. In the other you can order coffee or tea, and munch on a tasty calzone. And in both, you'll have fun.

## Do Dah Days 1185 Church St. 647-4775

Theresa Day and Kathy DeWitt opened their secondhand collectibles store, Do Dah Days, on June 14, in the space formerly occupied by Mike's Barber Shop, on Church Street just above 24th.

The two women have transformed the long narrow space—with a sparkling blue-green foil floor, pale yellow sponged walls, and jeweled moldings—into a treasure box full of strange and wonderful things.

DeWitt, a 14-year Noe Valley resident who worked as a tile setter for 18 years, says, "I wanted to get off my knees for the rest of my life!"

Day, who has lived in Noe Valley for 17 years, quit her job as a physical education instructor following an injury, and then decided to seize the day.

"I'm a garage sale queen," she says. "My house was full, my garage was full," and Day realized she could make a business out of her stockpile. The huge inventory, she says, is "a fusion of hand-picked items, from the kinky to the sublime."

"Customers have come in and said, 'You must travel to other countries.' But this is all pretty much Noe Valley—bought. Our selection reflects the diversity of the people in the neighborhood."

China, porcelain, ceramics, jewelry,



Kathy DeWitt and Theresa Day (right) are cultivating a secondhand store on Church Street next door to Lovejoy's Tea Room.

PHOTOS BY BEVERLY THARP

toys, and Italian-painted wood trays fill the shelves. Assorted pictures decorate the walls. Hand-painted, framed mirrors hang next to some scarves above a brass music stand with curlicues and matching chair. A hot pink '50s-era lamp sits beside an old red baby scale with a sweet blue bundle smiling out from the numerals. Two glass and metal oil heaters flank the front door. "I've seen three of these in my life," says Day, "and I have two of them."

The shop's L-shaped counter is made from a curved piece of wood, with numerous pigeonholes, that may once have been a hotel key receptacle. Trays of rhinestone hrooches are stacked on top.

"I buy what I like," says Day, and her taste is eclectic.

Even the lettering that spells out Do Dah Days on the wire-mesh awning in front is fashioned from "found" material—oxidized steel that Day salvaged from the waterfront. Her son Kevin, a welder/

artist, shaped the design with a blowtorch.

Day and DeWitt encourage people to bring stuff in for them to buy. "We try to have things all the way from a quarter on up, to give everyone a chance to buy something to make them happy," says Day.

Do Dah Days is open from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., Wednesday through Sunday.

## Java 'n' Mor 1351 Church St. 824-6601

Java 'n' Mor, a coffeehouse that opened at the corner of Clipper and Church streets in early June, offers an airy, relaxed environment where "people are welcome to come in and hang out, and it won't cost them a lot," says owner Kal Naffa.

Naffa and his partner, Zaid Fakhouri, turned the former TJ Market into a large, open room with tall sliding-glass windows that look out onto the street. Round wood tables, wall seating, and a cozy couch in the back encourage customers to stay awhile, maybe play a game of Go, or read a book, undisturbed, in the corner.

Two rows of polished brass teapots are suspended above the serving area, ready to steep any one of the 15 herbal teas offered at \$1.25 a pot (not a cup), including all the usual flavors, plus exotics like mango or "Evening in Missoula."

High on the wall a menu board displays four-color chalk drawings of huge hanana leaves and bamboo stalks woven among the listings of 12 java choices and a full complement of Odwalla juices.

Java 'n' Mor also serves light meals. "We have an excellent vegetarian menu," says Naffa. "We make a lot of our own products and are trying to offer moderate prices so people won't have to spend a lot of money. People think that maybe the quality isn't as good because our prices are so low, but everything is fresh daily."

The house specialty, calzone (\$2.95), is made with a tight flour-and-canola-oil crust and filled with spinach and feta cheese, pesto, "veggies," or pine nuts and tomatoes. Naffa also offers salads, falafels,



The picture windows at Java 'n' Mor, Noe Valley's new coffeehouse on Church Street, afford lots of light to read and write by.

and bagels with a choice of 10 different toppings.

Desserts made "from the tastiest sources," he says, include cakes, brownies, and shortbread.

The cafe stays open until 10 p.m., notes Naffa, because "we looked around the neighborhood and saw that there weren't many places to go late at night and have a snack. We also provide a forum for local artists and hope to have a weekly night for musicians."

The walls are covered with one local artist's brilliantly colored Hawaiian paintings. And on Tuesday nights a neighbor gives ballroom dance lessons.

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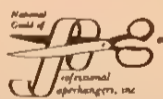
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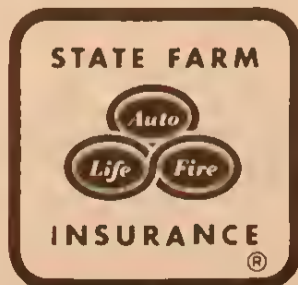
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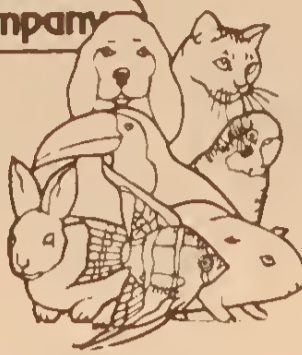
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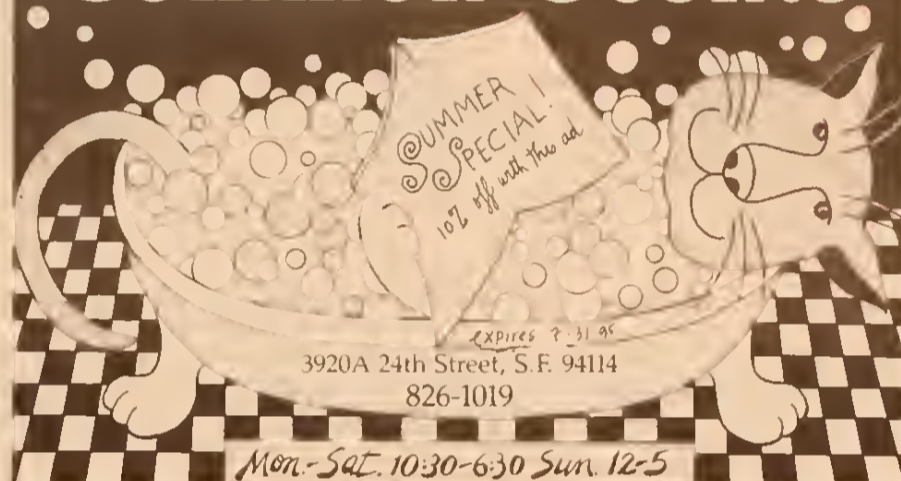
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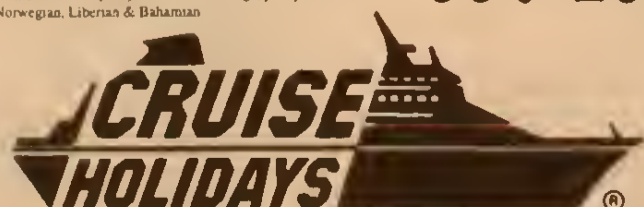
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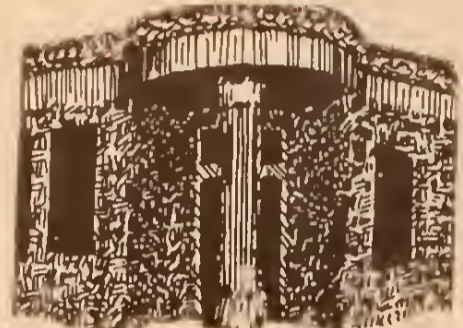


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Illustrated Reminiscences  
by Florence Holub

## A Midsummer to Remember

Twenty-five years ago, my Aunt Marie, who lived in Finland, died at 80 years of age. My father, the only surviving child from a brood of seven, was summoned to Vora, the village where he had been born 83 years earlier. When he went back to settle his sister's estate, I accompanied him.

We left sunny Noe Valley in mid-May 1970 and were transported to a cold, dismal landscape. Fortunately, we were able to live in the new, comfortable apartment—one built expressly for Finland's senior citizens—that Marie had purchased for her august years.

We intended to get down to business and settle her affairs well before our scheduled departure on July 1, but little did we know how slow and complicated Finnish law was, nor that there would be only one judge for the entire area.

To further complicate matters, we soon realized that the probate papers were written in Swedish legal jargon, which was incomprehensible to us both, even though my father knew Swedish.

(In Vora, as in much of western Finland, the Swedish language is spoken, because the people there are descendants of Swedish immigrants. For 600 years, Finland was considered a part of the Swedish realm—until the Napoleonic Wars during the early 1800s, when it was swallowed up by the Russian empire. Only since 1917 has Finland been a free and independent democracy.)

Fortunately, Marie had anticipated the language problem, and she arranged for two friends, Rego and Linnea, to assist us. Not only did they escort us through the mountain of red tape, they also became our constant companions as we settled into the simple life of the rural farming community.

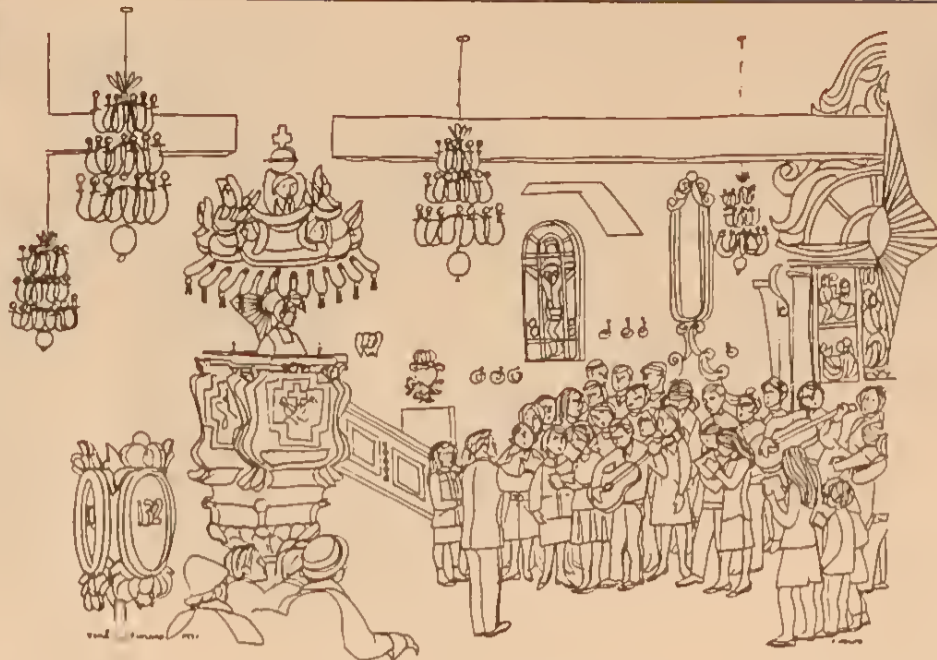
Finland is on the same latitude as Alaska and has the same extreme seasons. On June 21, which is the summer solstice and therefore the longest day of the year, the sun doesn't set until almost midnight, and rises again after only two hours of dusk. It comes after many months of long, dark winter nights—nights that last for most of the day.

Not until I realized this did I fully understand why Scandinavians celebrate the solstice with such joyful enthusiasm: they are ecstatic because the sunlight has finally returned.

Through our stay we heard the sound of tractors plowing day and night, since the sun shines nearly round the clock in the weeks before and after the solstice. Farmers in Finland, beginning in late May and continuing through summer, cultivate their fields almost continuously, planting and harvesting one crop after another in rapid succession.

They can do this because the crops—potatoes, beets, and rye—grow at an amazingly accelerated rate until the fall. (I saw dandelions three times as large as any I'd ever seen in California!)

Life moves slowly in Vora compared



to San Francisco, but even so, the weeks flew by. Each Sunday we awoke to the sound of church bells ringing. Soon Rego would arrive to drive us to the Lutheran Church, built in 1624 and enlarged in 1777.

Originally a Catholic church, it had a cross-shaped floor plan, hand-bewn rafters, and murals on the ceiling. Ancient and beautiful religious artifacts graced the walls. The tall, dark, shingled spire that rose above the facade reminded me of the Noe Valley Ministry at home. And I found the happy atmosphere and music—even though I didn't understand many of the words—heart-warming.

I soon learned that much of the social life in Vora revolves around the church, as it has down through the centuries. It is after church that the good folk congregate to discuss the goings-on in town. My father and I were the latest topic, for it seemed that we were related to most of the people in the area.

Invitations to dine came from every direction, and we were inundated with photographs and family trees that showed our remote familial connections. We attended the high school graduations of several newfound relatives, and were impressed to see how they had all mastered the languages vital to international or trade careers: Swedish, Finnish, German, French, Russian, and English.

We were also invited to join many families for a sauna, since almost every Finnish home had a steam bath, and every villa had a special sauna building close to one of Finland's many lakes (of which there are 60,000).

At first, I was reluctant to subject myself to such torturous heat, and so declined the invitations. This distressed Linnea greatly, however, and she tried to persuade me to change my mind by offering to prepare what she said was a "cold" sauna, set at 70 degrees centigrade—or 158 degrees Fahrenheit. (A hot sauna is between 100 and 120 degrees centigrade, or 210 to 230 degrees Fahrenheit!)

I couldn't understand her insistence, but I gave in, and found that I could withstand the heat if I set my mind to it. Nevertheless, I was happy to be able to jump in the cold lake afterward.

Only later did a much-relieved Linnea explain to me that in Finland it is believed that those who cannot stand the heat of the sauna will never amount to anything. I accepted all offers thereafter, and actually learned to appreciate the experience.

Before I knew it, the summer solstice was upon us. Since June 23 was my

father's 84th birthday, I planned a solstice birthday party in his honor, inviting as many relatives as would fit into the parlor.

I went to the village bakery to order a cake, but the lady couldn't understand me, so she called her son, who had studied English in school. He could only speak a few simple phrases, however, so I had to resort to my pidgin Swedish.

I clearly pronounced "stor" (big), "kaku" (cake), and "Lucklig Födelsedag, Johannes" (Happy Birthday, John). But before I could finish, the young man had doubled over with laughter at my apparently hilarious pronunciation. I had to write it down on the order form to make sure he got it right.

When I told my father about it, he was compelled to tell me that I did speak rather "broken" Swedish. Imagine that! Could it be that my English accent was just as amusing to the Finns as my father's Swedish accent—which he retained even after living in America for 65 years—had always been to me?

There are sounds that Swedish-speaking people cannot make (*th*, *j*, and *w*). When my brother and I were young, we

often begged our father to tell us the bear story that he did so well.

He would begin solemnly, "Yust before I vas born, my moder vent valking in de voods, vere she met a bahr. The bahr yumped up and, vit his paws, he yerked my moder out of his vay, den vent off into the voods. My moder vashn't inured, yust scared (pause), but ven I vas born, I vas horn vit hahr feet!" (Yust a yoke, of course.)

On the day of the party, the guests arrived with *blommer* (flowers), gifts, and cards. I had prepared a smorgasbord of potato and bean salad, coleslaw, and an array of tiny finger sandwiches made with flat rye bread, and spread with butter, tuna, salmon, and other cold cuts. The sandwiches were mostly open-faced, which is the way they prefer them in Vora. When I gave a "closed-faced" sandwich to Rego's little boy, Kaj, he took the top off and politely handed it back to me!

It was a happy occasion filled with laughter, song, and endless sunshine. The high point of the day came when all the men rushed to my father, picked him up by his arms and legs, and began tossing him into the air, yelling "Hey!" with each toss.

My father added a little motion by thrashing and turning in mid-air. He looked as though he had done this before, and he had, for it is an old Vora custom that he had enjoyed in his youth.

After everyone left, I got out my camera to snap a photograph of my father holding an alarm clock that showed the time as 12 midnight. I planned to show this to my husband Leo, to prove that there had been enough light in the middle of the night to get a picture, without using flashbulbs!

One week later—although we had not finished our business and I would have to return two more times to do so (but that's another story!)—we bid a fond farewell to our relatives and friends. Then we boarded a Finnair jet bound for home and some cool summer fog. □

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## MORE MOUTHS to feed

Maggie Mariah McKittrick

You may have heard of the fifth Beatle, but what about the fifth Swingin' Door? One of local rock-'n'-roll's ongoing mysteries has been whether Vicksburg Street singer/songwriter Jenifer McKittrick (Swingin' Doors' lead guitarist) ever used a collaborator to write music.

The answer is yes, and now the story can be told. The collaborator's name is Maggie, and she made her debut at 5:43 p.m. on May 1, 1994, at U.C.S.F. Medical Center. She rocked the scales at 5 pounds, 15 ounces, and has been rollin' ever since. Actually, she was rockin' and rollin' before she was born.

"I was on stage doing shows when I was eight months pregnant," says Jenifer. "Maggie really knows the songs. They're familiar to her from the womb."

Today the 14-month-old is "a little beauty" with big, dark brown eyes and dark hair—"a lot of it!" says Mom. The lass also has "perfect brows," according to Jenifer's hairdresser, who cuts Maggie's bangs.

"She looks like me," adds Jenifer, "but surprisingly, people say that she looks more like Amy."

Amy Capen is Maggie's other mom. She's also in the music business, working as a producer with San Francisco-based Colossal Pictures. She currently produces video exhibits for the new Rock 'n' Roll Hall of Fame in Cleveland.

Maggie likes all kinds of music, not just the Swingin' Doors' country and '70s-style rock. "She loves reggae," says Jenifer. "She really starts shaking when she hears that beat." Maggie's eclectic play list also includes Al Green, Marvin Gaye, some early Velvet Underground,

and a new favorite—the soundtrack from *Breakfast at Tiffany's*.

After her daily music session, Maggie likes to visit Douglass Park with her best friend, Madeleine. She and Madeleine met at Peek-a-Bootique on Castro Street, when the two bumped strollers while shopping for new threads. They got to chatting, as young gals will, and discovered that Madeleine was born the day after Maggie in the same room at U.C. Med Center—a sure sign that they should hang out together!

Maggie's favorite haunt on 24th Street is Streetlight Records, of course. She points out the new Swingin' Doors compact disc to passersby, and encourages them to go to the quartet's CD release party on July 7 at Edinburgh Castle.

Jenifer and Amy, both 33, met in 1992

at Noe's Bar on Church Street, where Jenifer works when she's not gigging with the SD's. The moms are San Francisco transplants—Jenifer from the Midwest and Amy from the East Coast—and they love living in Noe Valley.

"I can't think of another place in the country that offers better support for two women raising a child," says Amy. "This is a real community."

"We are having a great life!" exults Jenifer. "It is so much fun having Maggie, who is miraculously well-behaved and sweet. At first I had the fears that all [prospective] parents go through, and I was getting ready to make big sacrifices. But what a nice surprise—it is so easy being a mom!"

In the background, Maggie is pointing at various objects and saying, "Hi, what's

that?" This has been her favorite question since she began talking at 8 months.

Yes, folks, the interview is over. The two moms don't have any more time right now. It's Maggie's turn. □

—Jim Christie



Thirteen-month-old Maggie McKittrick is lucky to have two moms, Amy Capen and Jenifer McKittrick. PHOTO BY TOM WACHS



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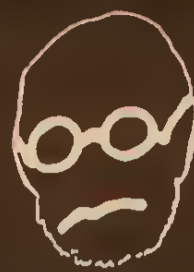
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**Clipper Street SAFE Group**  
Contact: Don Kern or Howard Johnson, 821-3866  
Mailing Address: 225 Clipper St., San Francisco, CA 94114  
Meetings: Third Tuesday of month, Bethany Methodist Church, 201 Clipper St., 7 p.m.

**Diamond Heights Community Association**  
Contact: Robert Dockendorff, 826-3867  
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 31529, San Francisco, CA 94131  
Meetings: First Thursday of the month, 7:30 p.m. Call for location.

**Dolores Heights Improvement Club**  
Contact: Bruce Muncil, 864-7847  
Mailing Address: 336 Cumberland St., San Francisco, CA 94114  
Meetings: Held periodically. Call for details.

**Duncan-Newburg Association**  
Contact: Evelyn Martin, 826-6734, Janet Kennedy, 647-1844, or Deanna Mooney, 821-4045  
Mailing Address: 560 Duncan St., San Francisco, CA 94131  
Meetings: Held periodically. Call for details.

**East & West of Castro Street Improvement Club**  
Contact: Paul Kantus, 647-3753  
Mailing Address: 492 Douglass St., San Francisco, CA 94114  
Meetings: First Wednesday of month, Noe Valley-Sally Brunn Library, 451 Jersey St., 7:30 p.m.

**Fairmount Neighborhood Association**  
Contact: Susan Nutter, 285-8484  
Mailing Address: 78 Harper St., San Francisco, CA 94131  
Meetings: Held periodically at Upper Noe Recreation Center, Day & Sanchez, 7 p.m.

**Fair Oaks Neighbors**  
Contact: Kevin Brickley, 285-4938  
Mailing Address: 165 Fair Oaks St., San Francisco, CA 94110  
Meetings: Twice a year at ICA Auditorium, 24th & Guerrero.

**Friends of Noe Valley**  
Contact: Georgia Finnigan, 285-8016  
Mailing Address: 327 Jersey St., San Francisco, CA 94114  
Meetings: Second Thursday of month, Noe Valley-Sally Brunn Library, 451 Jersey St., 7:30 p.m.

**Liberty Hill Neighborhood Association**  
Contact: John Barbey, 695-0990, or Hilda Bernstein, 282-8232  
Mailing Address: 3333 21st St., San Francisco, CA 94110  
Meetings: Quarterly. Call for details.

**Noe Valley Democratic Club**  
Contact: Rick Hauptman, 647-0549  
Mailing Address: 1595 Noe St., #6, San Francisco, CA 94131  
Meetings: Held periodically at the Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St.

**Noe Valley Merchants and Professionals Association**  
Contact: J. P. Gillen, 821-1515  
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 460574, San Francisco, CA 94114  
Meetings: Last Wednesday of month, Bank of America, 24th & Castro, 9 a.m.

**Noe Valley Senior Center**  
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Meetings: Monday through Friday for lunch (donation \$1.25), Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St., 12:30 p.m.

**Ooter Noe Valley Merchants**  
Contact: Jim Appenrodt, 641-1500  
Mailing Address: 284 29th St., San Francisco, CA 94131  
Meetings: First Monday of month. Just for You Too Cafe, 1793 Church St., 3 p.m.

**R.A.A.G.E. (Race Awareness Arbitration Group Education)**  
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Mailing Address: P.O. Box 426199, San Francisco, CA 94142  
Call for meeting times.

**21st Street 4000 Block SAFE**  
Contact: Santiago Rodriguez  
Mailing Address: 4014 21st St., San Francisco, CA 94114  
Meetings: Held periodically.

**Upper Noe Neighbors**  
Contact: Janice Gendreau, 641-5989  
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Meetings: Every other month, Upper Noe Recreation Center, Day & Sanchez, 7:30 p.m. Call for specifics.



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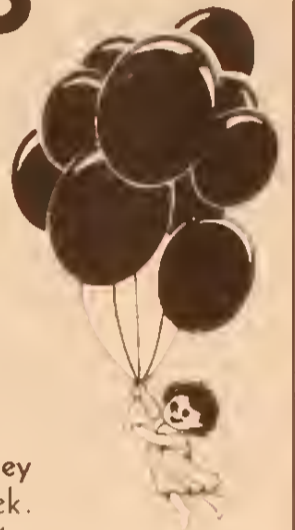
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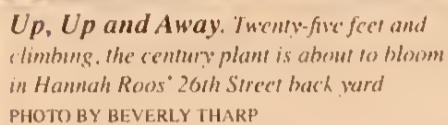
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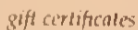
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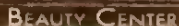


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## MORE BOOKS to READ

The Voice reading list comes to you courtesy of Roberta Greifer and Carol Small, librarians at the Noe Valley-Sally Brumm Library, 451 Jersey St. They invite you to check out these and other books on Tuesdays, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Wednesdays, 1 to 9 p.m.; Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Fridays, 1 to 6 p.m.; and Saturdays, noon to 6 p.m. For information, call 695-5095.

### New Books - Adult Fiction

Annotated by Roberta Greifer

- Geoffrey Wolff's *The Age of Consent*, a novel set in upstate New York, explores the secrets that ultimately tear apart the "perfect" family.
- *Betrays* by Charles Palliser, the author of *The Quincunx*, is a murder mystery, soap opera, and literary parody all in one.
- In *The End of the Story* by Lydia Davis, a woman looking back on her life reviews a disturbed relationship she had with a much younger man.
- A commentary on America's obsession with beauty, *Flesh*, by David Galet, is a humorous account of a professor's infatuation with large women.
- *Krik? Krak!* by Edwidge Danticat is a collection of short stories about life under Haiti's dictatorship.

### Adult Non-Fiction

- *The Blue Jay's Dance*, by fiction writer Louise Erdrich, covers 12 months in her life—from pregnancy through early motherhood.
- Covering toxicology, explosives, DNA analysis, and fingerprints, *Hard Evidence*, by David Fisher, describes the high-tech procedures used in the FBI's Sci-Crime Lab.
- Using the documentary film as its starting point, *Hoop Dreams*, by Ben Joravsky, portrays the lives of basketball "hopefuls" Arthur Agee and William Gates.
- *Let the Mountains Talk, Let the Rivers Run* is David Brower's autobiographical account of his 50 years as an activist in the environmental movement.

### Book of the Month Club

- The Noe Valley Book Discussion Group will meet at the Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey St., on Wednesday, July 26, 7:30 p.m., to discuss *Joe Hill*, Wallace Stegner's fictional account of the life of labor organizer Joe Hill. Call 695-5095 for details.



### New Books - Children's Fiction

Annotated by Carol Small

- Bernard Most gives us a way to understand the size of dinosaurs by comparing them to well-known objects—a school bus, bulldozer, etc.—in *How Big Were the Dinosaurs?* (Ages 4-6.)
- Anansi the Spider, Goso the Teacher, and others are found in folktales from various locales in Africa, retold by Verna Aardema in *Misoso: Once Upon a Time Tales from Africa*. (Ages 6-10.)
- Although the piano comes as a surprise to Annie and her parents, Annie eventually helps them to accept it in *The Baby Grand, the Moon in July, and Me*, by Joyce Annette Barnes. (Ages 9 and up.)
- Jack has a neighbor with 30 dogs, a younger brother who keeps getting hurt, and a family that moves frequently in *Heads or Tails: Stories from the Sixth Grade*, by Jack Gantos. (Ages 10 and up.)
- Although Cat refuses to race in the annual Play Day at school, she runs later, with the "Okie" boy, in order to save her friend's life in *Cat Running* by Zilpha Keatley Snyder. (Ages 11 and up.)

### Children's Non-Fiction

- In *Olbalbal: A Day in Maasailand*, Barbara Margolies describes and depicts life in a Maasai village in Tanzania. (Ages 6-9.)
- You will find good ideas for things to do in *The Kids' Summer Handbook* by Heather Collins, which provides a large variety of activities and projects for different settings and interests. (Ages 9 and up.)
- *Celebrate America: In Poetry and Art* consists of 50 poems on many aspects of American life and people, illustrated with related objects from the National Museum of American Art, Smithsonian Institution. (Ages 8 and up.)

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## and now for the RUMORS behind the news

### Hot Town, Summer in The City

By Mazook

I AM WRITING THIS COLUMN on the summer solstice, and we're actually having a summer-like phenomenon—a heat wave—in San Francisco.

But as most Noe Valleons know, it won't be long before the fog season starts, and the winds blow all the ATM deposit slips and spent coffee cups in Downtown Noe Valley down the slopes to Valencia Street.

You can generally count on having Friends from Back East (or the Far East) arrive in town during the grayest, foggiest, most Londonesque week, and naturally their spirits must be lifted.

So here are my suggestions for "Things to Do in Noe Valley." (Editor's Note: For more tips on where to steer your out-of-town guests, see our story on Noe Valley sightseeing, page 9.)

1. First of all, take 'em to the top of Diamond Street for a great overview of our little town.

2. Walk up Liberty Street from Valencia to Castro. Most of the houses in the first block were built in the 1870s. The last block gives you a scenic view of Eureka Valley.

3. Those with kids should check out the kindergym at Upper Noe Rec Center on Tuesdays and Saturdays, 10:30 to noon.

4. Take a picnic to Douglass Park Playground at noon on any day. At least one trip down the Big Slide is required.

5. Make a shopping excursion to 24th Street—to Star Magic, Just for Fun, Glob-



Brian McGee has won approval to demolish the old Parker house and build four "custom" homes on this overgrown parcel at 3701 21st St. But a group calling itself Neighbors to Save the Sanchez Hilltop has asked the city to preserve it as open space. PHOTO BY CHARLES KENNARD

al Exchange, etc., and stop by the produce section of Real Food Company.

6. Take a car or van ride down the 22nd Street hill (Vickshurg to Church)—and listen to the screams!

7. Duck inside St. Paul's Church, and quietly mention the filming of *Sister Act*.

8. (On a non-Noe Valley day, take a hike in Glen Canyon Park.)

9. Eat out at Eric's Chinese Restaurant on Church Street. Or if you want to do takeout, I recommend menu items 12, 17, 32, and 40.

10. Lastly, have a nightcap at the Dubliner for some local color. Or go to the Peaks, where the color is even more lo-

cal. After the former, walk home. After the latter, plan on taking a cab.



THE LINES ARE DRAWN in the hassle over "Battle Mountain"—well, not the whole mountain, but a four-lot parcel at 3701 21st St.

You will recall from my March '95 column that new property owner/developer Seamus McGee, with the help of son Brian McGee, is seeking permits to tear down the old house on the southwest corner of Sanchez and 21st once belonging to longtime resident Steve Parker. He wants to replace it with four five-bedroom, single-family homes.

(The property lies at the crest of the Sanchez Street hill between Hill and 21st streets—a hilltop nicknamed Battle Mountain because of the neighbors' squahhling over street layout back at the turn of the century.)

According to Brian McGee, who's both a building contractor and a Noe Valley resident, each of the four houses will be three stories high with a street-level parking garage, and will have a sticker price of from \$800 to \$900K.

At the end of May, the Planning Department's environmental review office issued a "preliminary negative declaration," saying the project would not have a significant impact on the environment.

Then on June 21, the Planning Commission gave McGee the go-ahead to demolish the old house.

In making its environmental review, City Planning noted that the Parker house had not been designated a city landmark, but that it was listed in *Here Today*, a book "prepared by the Junior League of San Francisco and adopted by the Board of Supervisors as an official inventory of his-

torically and architecturally significant structures."

If so, say some of the neighbors, then why not protect it?

Neighbors to Save the Sanchez Hilltop (NSSH) is the name of a new group lobbying to stop the project and have the city acquire the property and preserve it as open space, or at least trim down the size of the proposed buildings.

The Neighbors contend that the project would "obliterate and despoil a hilltop that has become a quiet and wooded treasure" to nearby residents.

Monika Henschke, one of the group's founders, points out that the city of San Francisco gets \$16 million every year, 24 percent of which is supposed to go for acquisition and development of open space under Prop. E.

"Why can't we preserve this site?" she asks, adding that she's heard a number of suggestions for its use, including a public park, urban farm, and even a swimming pool.

"The neighborhood has really gotten together over this issue, and we are looking for a lot of input," she says. (If you want to give yours, call the group's hotline number, 647-9980.)

Neighbors Tom and Sylvia Saunders, who've lived in Noe Valley for 20 years, put their protest in writing: "The very fact that the site was designated by the Board of Supervisors to be of historical and architectural significance should be reason enough to prevent [demolition of the house]. And, in fact, the city should attempt to preserve the gardens and the old well as open space and to encourage reconstruction of the 111-year-old house."

"If the latter is not feasible," the Saunders add, "at least the city should prevent the construction of four ridiculously enormous edifices on the site presently occupied by one 'unpretentious farm-type house' as described in *Here Today*."

The NSSH is quite serious and has hired Noe Valley attorney Claire Pilcher to appeal the negative declaration. Pilcher will argue that the property falls within the Dolores Heights Special Use District, which imposes certain restrictions on development.

Meanwhile, the McGees are moving ahead with their plans. Says Brian, "We hope to start the construction by the end of August, when we will demolish the building, which has been declared unsound, and begin some slight excavation for the garages."

Brian notes that he and his father had originally considered putting eight units on the property, but "cut back to four cus-

# Change the course of music history.

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### CHECK YOUR HOT SPOTS!



Remember...  
Keep blankets,  
clothing,

curtains, furniture and  
anything that could catch  
fire at least three feet away  
from portable heaters.

For free fire safety tips,  
write: Fire Safety, P.O. Box  
34386, Washington, DC  
20043



Continued Next Page



Manager Windy Chien and employee Cathy Fitzhugh show off the poster advertising Aquarius Records' 25th anniversary party. PHOTO BY CHARLES KENNARD

## RUMORS

Continued from Previous Page

tom homes" to be more in keeping with the neighborhood's wishes.

Personally, I like the swimming pool idea. And can we make it covered, a Sutro Baths kind of thing?

☎ ☎ ☎

**SHORT SHRIFTS:** Gary Rizzo has bought the Meat Market, Noe Valley's first modern-era coffeehouse, established in 1971. He says he'll remodel and reopen the relic "some time in August."

Yes, that was Ron Peetz, clerk at Tuggey's Hardware (since '81), whom you saw on the Big Spin aired on TV May 22. And yes, he did win \$75,000.

Thrifty Jr. has a new store manager, Ron Dierking. Before arriving on 24th Street, Dierking, 54, who lives in Vacaville, spent the past 24 years working as an inventory control manager for the Thrifty Corporation. Noe Valley is a welcome change of pace.

"I enjoy the people and the neighborhood a lot. There's lots of action here," he says. Dierking adds that he hopes to stock more products and make the store more user-friendly.

Down the street (near Vicksburg), Orpheus Leather is doing some unstocking. After almost 15 years in Noe Valley, the leather accessory shop is closing its doors for good. (The shop started out in a garage at Sanchez and 24th.)

Twenty-eighth Street writer Stephanie Levin-Gervasi says she has just the hook for you stockers and restockers out there. It's the *Back Pain Resource Book*, her first feature-length work on the subject. According to Levin-Gervasi's calculations, 80 percent of us will have a use for her research at some point in our lives.

The Committee to Save Historic Chavez Street has given short shrift to those who'd like to restore the Army to the Street (aka San Franciscans to Save Army Street). In a statement published in the *North Mission News*, the committee made some disparaging remarks about their opponents, and also sullied Noe Valley's good name:

"Is the name Army Street really the appropriate way to honor the Army anyway? Wouldn't it be better to help out a homeless vet or mow the lawn over at the Presidio, maybe put a little something extra on that IRS check for the traditional way we honor the Army, paying the defense budget?"

"Chew on that, Noe Valley militarists." I beg your pardon.

☎ ☎ ☎

**RECORD PARTIES:** Streetlight Records, Noe Valley's most-used new-and-used record, tape, and CD outlet, will celebrate its 20th year on 24th Street this summer by rolling back prices on some of its titles to 1975 levels.



The Streetlight Records crew—featuring (from left) Ron Shelley, Sunlight Weismehl, Cole Westbrook, Vince DiCiccio, Tiber Scheer, and Remy Young—is celebrating the shop's 20th year on 24th Street this summer. PHOTOS BY CHARLES KENNARD

Says Manager Jeff Moss, "We are planning to have a really big sale and feature a 1975 Wall with albums and artists from that year."

The popular store was founded by Bob Fallon, who you might recall also ran the 24th Street Component Shop on the corner of Noe and 24th, where Rabat is now.

Moss literally got into the business on the ground floor, since his first job was to refinish the floors at the shop. Nowadays, he presides over a three-store operation.

Original owner Bob, by the way, has moved to Big Sur, where he spends much of his time doing metal sculpturing.

Also celebrating an anniversary—their 10th on 24th Street, their 25th in business—is Noe Valley's other thriving record store, Aquarius Records, a few doors down from Streetlight.

Known for its showcasing of new bands and local artists, particularly those of the punk variety, Aquarius spent its early years in Eureka Valley in a spot next door to Harvey Milk's camera shop. Owner Butch Bridges moved the shop over the hill in 1985.

On June 12, Aquarius threw a benefit party at the Bottom of the Hill (Potrero Hill), featuring the bands Dirty Three, Virgil Dieselhed, Eville, Mark Eitzel, Virginia Dare, Barbara Manning, the J Church, and Fifty Foot Hose, a legendary psychedelic band from the '60s making its first appearance in 26 years.

☎ ☎ ☎

**THAT'S ALL, YOU ALL.** When you are pondering all the anniversaries and celebrations in the city this summer, remember that 50 years ago, in the first fortnight of August, the United States of America became the only country in history to drop an atomic bomb on not one, but two cities in Japan.

Peace and love. See you in September. But don't forget that the *Voice* will be coming out with its first-ever literary issue Aug. 2. □

## Hold On To The Roof



### Recent Donors to the Noe Valley Ministry Community Building Fund

\$2,500

Anna & Nathan Flax Foundation

\$1,000 - \$500

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Leslie Bradford

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Anonymous  
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Elizabeth Dickinson & Joe Merrill  
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We have reached our \$75,000 goal thanks to the help of many friends!

We are writing specs and soon will solicit bids for the roof.

**Total contributions and pledges as of 6-15-95: \$79,534.**

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Buy a ticket in our raffle, and win this or other great prizes donated by Bill Drypolcher of Zephyr Real Estate, Panos, and other neighborhood merchants.

Look for Noe Valley merchants displaying a raffle sign, and buy your tickets early.

The drawing will be held Friday, August 18

You need not be present to win.



# CLASADS

**HANOYMAN** Repairs, building shelves, decks, fences. References, reasonable rates. Harry Irving, 986-2654.

**TELEPHONE** wiring and jacks for your home or apartment, 31 years of experience. Call Gene, 826-8419.

**GDURMET VEGETARIAN CUISINE** delivered to your doorstep. Overse menus, naturally low in fat, cholesterol, and salt. Treat yourself right! Gift certificates available. For monthly menu call Jane, 826-2133.

**SAFE RELAXING MASSAGE FOR WOMEN** Swedish and shiatsu massage available in my home between the Castro and Noe Valley. Perfect for pregnant and postpartum women, too. Sliding scale. First session discount. Gift certificate available. Member A.M.T.A. Cat Lambert, 641-4463.

**I AM AN EXPERIENCED HOUSECLEANER.** You are a busy person. Don't be ashamed of your dirt. I will take care of it. Guilt-free cleaning. 864-3842, Kieran.

**WOMEN WRITERS' GROUP** meets monthly in Noe Valley to provide support for challenges of writing and the creative process, including: writer's block, inner critic, self-disclosure, failure/success issues, isolation. Individual consultation also available. Maire Farrington, M.F.C.C. #24893, 282-5965.

**MEDITATION WORKSHOPS.** This is a practical workshop that will enable students to begin earnest meditation on their own. A clear understanding of what meditation is, how it works, and how to make it an enjoyable daily experience will be presented. Offered twice: Thursdays, July 13 and August 17, 7:30 to 9 p.m., \$6. Integral Yoga Institute, 770 Dolores St., S.F. 821-1117.

**NED INSTRUCTION** in Swedish language. 647-6833.

**LOST DIAMOND BROOCH.** Family heirloom, sentimental value. Reward offered. Please call Hans, 765-6626 (days) if found.

**RELATIONSHIP PROBLEMS?** Improve communication, intimacy, and reduce conflicts with relationship counseling. Couples, individuals, and families. Dennis Thatcher, M.F.C.C. 995-2916.

**APPLE IMAGEWRITER LQ FOR SALE.** \$150. New color ribbon, manual, cable, and dust cover all in original carton. Excellent for form feed and over-size documents. This printer is clean with low mileage. Call 824-4332.

**CAT & PLANT CARE** continues to provide TLC to cats and homes in Noe Valley and environs. Mature woman makes daily visits on a set schedule. Excellent local references. Call for a cat chat and additional information. Anna-Kajs (A-K), 648-8132.

**OLD BARBIE DOLLS** and clothes wanted by collector. One doll or whole collection. Call 668-7353.

**FOR SALE:** One-year-new Miele canister vacuum cleaner. All attachments plus turbo brush, \$350 or best offer. Clear Trak Up Rite vacuum cleaner, new, \$450. Jack, 695-7808.

**MASSAGE THAT HEALS** and relieves stress. Out-call service or easy parking on Potrero Hill. \$55/two hours, \$35/one hour. Ouncan Reid, C.M.T. 821-3969.

**HAPPY HOUSECLEANING.** We'll clean your home, apartment, or business how you like it! \$10 per hour. Call Pilar and Jorge, 282-2256.

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**CHINESE MASSAGE/ACUPRESSURE:** Asian-American couple just moved busy Beijing clinic to San Francisco. New approach developed and taught in China. Specializing in chronic/acute pains, fatigue, M.S., athletic injuries, etc. Certified teacher of qigong therapy. Call Rachel and Wang, 826-2422.

**PSYCHOTHERAPY OFFICE AVAILABLE** on 24th Street between Diamond and Castro. Available Monday, Friday, and Saturday. Well-appointed, comfortable. Rent includes off-street parking with genie garage door opener. 995-2960.

**RAJA YOGA COURSE.** This six-week class, based on Patanjali's yoga sutras, encompasses the psychology and philosophy of yoga. You will learn the yogic concept of the mind and how to use it more effectively. Required reading: *Yoga Sutras of Patanjali*. Please register in advance. Send tuition, name, and phone number. Six Tuesdays, beginning July 11, 7:30 to 9 p.m., \$35. Integral Yoga Institute, 770 Dolores St., S.F. 821-1117.

**CLINICAL CONSULTATION AVAILABLE** to psychotherapists who work with those affected by HIV/AIDS, from an experienced San Francisco-based clinician. Consultation can provide an opportunity to discuss the unique array of clinical, psychosocial, and countertransference issues which often arise when working with the affected population. Contact Jackie Brookman, M.F.C.C., at 647-0756.

**EXPERIENCEO TUTOR.** Special education teacher available for tutoring, either in your home or mine. Math, reading, ESL, and writing. All ages. \$30/hour. Call Simone, 648-4356.

**PROFESSIONAL HOUSECLEANING.** Mature local graduate student with two years of experience. Light to heavy duty cleaning and/or odd jobs. Low rates. References available. Call 826-5508.

**MOVING GARAGE SALE:** Saturday, July 15. Furniture, appliances, everything must go. Dining table, brass headboard, etc. 4521 25th St.

**LEARN ITALIAN!** Small group or individual classes for all levels. Taught by experienced instructor in Noe Valley. Phone Catherine at 285-7872.

**MASTERING STRESS WORKSHOP.** Stress begins in the mind. This workshop will offer a yogic perspective using specific exercises, visualizations, and deep relaxation techniques to identify and cope with stress. Thursday, July 27, 7:30 to 9:15 p.m., \$10. Integral Yoga Institute, 770 Dolores St., S.F. 821-1117.

**SUPPLEMENTAL INCOME** for a middle-aged or active elderly person who must live within a block or two of 24th and Sanchez streets. Active but aging man residing in a nice two-bedroom apartment, not looking for a caregiver, desires a person to stop by daily for a few minutes and to vacuum and clean about six to eight hours a month. Please call Rich, 647-7205.

**DOG FUN! MIDDAY DOG WALKS** Monday through Friday. Go about your day — your dog's okay! Oog Walking Service of San Francisco, 731-0120.

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**SMALL OFFICE** in Noe Valley for rent. July or later. \$625/best offer. 826-8699.

**DESIGNER'S STUDIO LIQUIDATION,** furniture and accessories. Saturday, July 2, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. 2629 19th St. at York.

**EXPERIENCEO FEMINIST THERAPIST** specializing in the treatment of relationship difficulties, codependence, anxiety difficulties (stress management, high anxiety, agoraphobia, specific fears), and depression located in Noe Valley. Individuals and couples. Insurance accepted. Valerie Hearn, Ph.D. 824-3701.

**PARENTS IN ACTION,** a parent education and support network, offers workshops and support groups for parents who want to discover more effective and enjoyable parenting strategies. Call 826-7247 for more information.

**SUMMER CHILOCARE** at the New Moon School. Ages 2 to 10. Art, music, drama, carpentry, organic gardening, computers, field trips, and more. Flexible hours available. Call 826-7247.

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**HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS.** Is your relationship in trouble? Are you in a good relationship that has occasional difficulties? Relationship counseling with a problem-solving focus. Noe Valley. Individuals and couples. Insurance accepted. Valerie Hearn, Ph.D. 824-3701.

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**SUNNY TWO-BEOROOM** Noe Valley apartment seeks one roommate to share. Available Sept. 1. Prefer straight, responsible, clean female. Call Otane at 282-7332.

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**YOGA FOR MEN.** Six-week class tailored for male strengths, needs, and physiology. 8 p.m. Mondays, beginning July 17. New Dawn Yoga Therapy, 285-1831.

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**DEEP RELAXATION WORKSHOP.** Learn how to use deep relaxation in creative ways to release physical and mental tension, patterns of stress, as well as conserve energy in your daily life. This workshop will include extended deep relaxation, visualization, breathing practices and a short meditation. Thursday, Aug. 3, 7:30 to 9 p.m., \$6. Integral Yoga Institute, 770 Dolores St., S.F. 821-1117.

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**PRANAYAMA AND MEDITATION** course. This six-week class will present the basics of meditation and breathing practices. Discover for yourself how these practices can improve the quality of your life, raise your standard of health, and bring new clarity and dynamism to your mind. Please register in advance. Send tuition, name, and phone number. Six Wednesdays beginning July 12, 7:30 to 9 p.m., \$35. Integral Yoga Institute, 770 Dolores St., S.F. 821-1117.

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**PMS/MENOPAUSE WORKSHOP.** This workshop will explore natural and easeful ways to help relieve symptoms of PMS and menopause through yoga poses, breathing practices, deep relaxation, and meditation. Please don't eat for two hours before class, wear warm, loose clothing, and bring a towel. Thursday, July 20, 7:30 to 9:15 p.m., \$10. Integral Yoga Institute, 770 Olores St., S.F. 821-1117.

**HOUSE/PET SIT:** Let this domestic Cancer tend to things (and critters) while you're gone. Reliable, flexible, will travel. Sheila, 285-9395. References.

**PAINTING PLUS.** Plaster and drywall repair. Expert color consultation. Fast, neat, and very reliable. Low rates, excellent references. Senior discount! Call 206-0646.

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**BOOKS BOUGHT.** I can come to you. Call L.J., 469-9338 (45-year San Francisco resident).

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**LONG WALKS & SWEET TALKS.** Responsible, loving care for your pets and house. Established 1982. Local references. Bonded. Call Ronda, 824-0188.

**WORD PROCESSING,** tape transcription, editing, statistical typing, mailings, repetitive letters, resumes, letter composition, and screenplays. Expertise: legal word processing and complaint letters. Oena Reiner, 821-4661.

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**HAPPY CAT! PET CARE.** In-home pet care for cats. Over 25 years of experience raising and caring for cats. Practical cat health knowledge. References. From \$10 per visit. Call Tish, 647-5236.

**OVERWHELMED BY CLUTTER?** Call a professional organizer for successful solutions to what goes where. Ten years of experience organizing offices, residences, businesses, moving, parties, closets, garages, and much more. Free phone consultation. Deborah Silberberg. 621-3425.

**MOTHERHOOD—IS IT FOR ME?** Two one-day workshops (June 24 to July 15) planned to explore this choice with other women. Ambivalence can be immobilizing. Take the next step. Co-led by Denise Carlini, M.F.C.C., and Ann Oavidman, M.F.C.C. Registered Intern #IMF20110. Supervisor: K. Glaser, M.F.C.C. #18869 985-7464

**GROUP THERAPY FOR WOMEN** with eating disorders. Food does not have to be the most important thing in your life. Overeating, throwing up, not eating are not as impossible to overcome as they may seem. We now find it helpful to relate to others who are working to gain control of their lives and their eating. The group will meet Wednesdays from 3:30 to 5 p.m. The fee is \$25 per week. For further information, call Or. Pat Sax, 661-7158.

**PETCARE.** Does Rover need a pet sitter? Exercise? Training? A ride to the vet? Positively Pets can help! Expert care for all pets. Ten years' experience. We love older pets. Bonded. References. Senior discounts. 647-2463.

**MAUI VACATION HOUSE:** Beautiful 5-bedroom, 2 1/2-bath house (\$200) or one-bedroom (\$60). Fully equipped, privacy, nice back yard/lanai, across street from beach, Kihei. House sleeps 10, washer/dryer. 931-7035.

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**RECYCLED TECHNOLOGY:** We are a group of repair technicians who save energy and resources by recycling technological objects. Don't throw away your broken vacuums, microwaves, sewing machines, small appliances, computers, televisions, VCRs, copiers, fax's, or anything electronic. Sell or donate it to us! Buy these items from us repaired and at very reasonable prices. 282-SHOP (282-7467). Call seven days, 24 hours.

**ONE-ON-ONE FITNESS.** Affordable, professional and personalized. Relaxed, comfortable atmosphere. Certified personal trainer. B.A. in physical education. Anne, 821-1539.

**LYNOA THE GAROENER.** Complete landscape service. Experienced and skilled professional craftspeople. Redwood fences, decks, and arbors. Brick, stone, concrete: walls, walks, and patios. Irrigation, lawns, plantings, expert pruning and maintenance. Let us install your dream garden. Serving Noe Valley since 1986. Free estimate. Referrals. License #543983. Lynda, 759-1335.

**HOME REPAIRS:** Windows, doors, deadbolt locks, weatherstrip doors, general repairs. Local references, free estimates. I am always on time. 337-9327. Ask for Don.

**MOTHERS IN MOTION** Circuit training for moms. Aerobics and weight training in an effective, safe, and efficient one-hour workout. Infants welcome. Certified personal trainer. Anne, 821-1539.

**ASSEMBLERS:** Excellent income to assemble products at home. Information, 1-504-646-1700, Department CA-5139.

**EVENING OF WESTERN PRACTICES** This workshop will present spiritual practices that are found within Judaism, Christianity, and Sufi traditions. Robert Fox has an M.A. in Religious Studies and teaches World Religions at Las Positas Community College. Thursday, Aug. 10, 7:30 to 9 p.m., \$6. Integral Yoga Institute, 770 Olores St., S.F. 821-1117.

**SAN FRANCISCO VIEWS "THE VILLA."** Short-term rentals guesthouse. Fabulous executive suites and rooms. Pool, decks, and views in the best Castro and Noe Valley locations. Rates from \$80. 282-1367.

**PHIL'S WINOOW CLEANING SERVICE.** Reliable/courteous. Free estimates for residential/commercial. 668-8310.

**COUNSELING/PATHWAYS FOR CHANGE.** I provide a safe, nurturing environment to help you clarify times of transition, heal old wounds, release hindering patterns, and create positive changes in your life. Esther Goldman, M.A. 431-1066.

**PIANO LESSONS** with credentialed, experienced Noe Valley teacher. Classical approach including ear training and theory. All ages welcome. Barbara Bannett, 648-1007.

**OEHUMIOIFIER.** 3 months old, \$70. 826-1477.

## How to Use Voice Class Ads

The rate for classified advertising in the *Noe Valley Voice* is 25¢ a word. Just type or print your copy, multiply the number of words by 25¢ (we trust you), enclose a check or money order for the full amount, and mail it to us by the 15th of the month preceding the month in which you'd like the ad to appear. Please let us know whether your ad is a renewal from a previous issue. (But be sure to give us the full ad copy, in any case.)

**Reward for Loyalty:** The *Voice* prints a news edition 10 months a year. Starting this year, we will publish a special literary issue in August, featuring display ads only. (Call Steve at 239-1114, and he'll be happy to give you our display ad rates and sizes.) There is no January issue, because we're on vacation for the month of December.

If you decide to place the same class ad in 10 issues (a year's worth), you are entitled to a 10 percent discount. When figuring your cost, deduct 10 percent from the total amount due for 10 issues.

The next *Voice* (for Class Ad purposes) will be the September 1995 issue, which will hit the streets Wednesday, Aug. 30. To place a class ad, mail your ad copy and a check, made payable to the *Noe Valley Voice*, so that we receive it by Aug. 15. The address is *Noe Valley Voice* Class Ads, 1021 Sanchez St., San Francisco, CA 94114. Sorry, but we are unable to accept phone orders.

Class advertisers should keep in mind that only the first few words of the ad (not to exceed one line of type) will be highlighted in all caps. Also, receipts and tear sheets will be provided only if your order is accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope. Thank you. □

**PEN COLLECTOR** buys old fountain pens, any condition. Mr. Brown, 349-1830.

**SUPERLATIVE WORD PROCESSING.** Experienced professional. B.A. English, M.A. social work. Understandable advice. Business, academic, legal, resumes, manuscripts. Expert editing. Fax machine. Laser printing. Good rates. Call anytime. 824-7736.

**SAXOPHONES WANTED.** Top cash paid. 641-8881.

**TRANSFORM YOUR JUNGLE** into a paradise. Pruning, cleanups, planting, lawns, irrigation, maintenance. Call Jorge at 826-7840 for free estimates. Remember, it's pruning time.

**LICENSED PAINTING.** Small and large jobs. Interior and exterior. Free consultation and estimate. Also expert plaster and drywall repairs. Cracks and water damage fixed. License #497-214. References. Please call Ed at 995-4666.

**BEO AND BREAKFAST,** quaint garden suite, spacious, front room, full kitchen, big bedroom and office area, laundry room, modern bathroom, ornamental gas fireplace, arched window view of garden with flowers, ground level, parking, separate entrance, quiet, near 26th and Sanchez, close to shopping and transportation, privacy. Additional rooms available. Call 206-1999.

**JUST PLAIN GOO THERAPY.** Brief counseling, crisis help, or in-depth work offered to individuals and couples of "all sexual persuasions" by well-aged, intuitive, perceptive, and highly skilled counselor who has seen, heard, and experienced a broad range of life's challenges. Upper Glen Park, easy parking. Jeanne Adleman, M.A. 585-0666.

**HEAVENLY MAIOS.** Janitorial. 239-0561.

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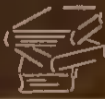
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# CALENDAR

**JULY 1:** Community Music Center holds summer session REGISTRATIDN 10 am–1 pm. 544 Capp St. For a free catalog of classes, call 647-6015.

**JULY 1:** AUDITIDNS for the S.F. City Chorus will be held during late July and early August. Call 765-SONG to schedule an appointment

## JULY 1995

**JULY 1:** John Hirtlen plays an ORGAN CDNCERT of works by Bach and Mendelssohn. 5 pm. St. John the Evangelist Church, 1661 15th St. 861-1436

**JULY 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29:** Precita Eyes Mural Arts Center sponsors Mission MURAL WALKS. 1:30–3:30 pm. 348 Precita Ave. 285-2287

**JULY 1–3 & SEPT. 4:** The San Francisco Mime Troupe brings its free show-in-the-park, *Coast City Confidential: A Hard-boiled Musical Drama*, to Mission Dolores Park. 2 pm. 19th & Dolores. 285-1717

**JULY 2:** The Adventist HEALTHVAN offers free blood pressure tests and \$5 cholesterol screenings. 10 am–4 pm. Parked at Mission & 24th St. 775-2570

**JULY 2:** The Preservation Hall Jazz Band performs New Orleans JAZZ at a free concert in Stern Grove. 2 pm. 19th Ave. & Sloat Blvd. 252-6252

**JULY 2:** Music, theater, comedy, poetry—all are welcome at OPEN MICHELLE NIGHT. 7 pm. Old Wives' Tales, 1009 Valencia St. Call 821-4675 to sign up

**JULY 4:** The Golden Gate Democratic League and Centro Latino de San Francisco celebrate Independence Day with a PICNIC and barbecue. 11 am–4 pm. Pine Lake Park near Stern Grove. 861-2378 or 931-7896, evenings.

**JULY 6:** Precita Eyes Mural Center offers kids' ART CLASSES for ages 5 to 10. Ongoing Tues. and Thurs., 3:30–5 pm. 348 Precita Ave. 285-2287

**JULY 6:** The People with AIDS Coalition hosts a TDOWN HALL to discuss formation of a consumers' union of people with AIDS/HIV. 7:15–9:15 pm. Eureka Valley Recreation Center, 100 Collingwood St. 621-7712

**JULY 6:** Jean Zimmerman discusses her BDDK, *Tailspin: Women at War in the Wake of Tailhook*. 8 pm. Old Wives' Tales, 1009 Valencia St. 821-4675.

**JULY 6:** Countertenor Brian Asawa performs vocal music by Purcell, Scarlatti, Cavalli, Handel, Mozart, and Schubert in a BENEFIT for the S.F. School of the Arts. 8 pm. Everett Middle School, 450 Church St. 824-8085.

**JULY 7–28:** Three-D TV presents the interactive SDAP DPERA troupe, "Liquid Soap!" Fridays, 10:15 pm. Climate Theater, 252 Ninth St. 241-8887.

**JULY 8:** Attend a CELEBRATIDN featuring songs, reading, and fun by and for young people. 10 am. Old Wives' Tales, 1009 Valencia St. 821-4675.



California Contemporary Dancers, led by Yasmen Sorab Mehta (pictured), present the world premiere of Ahimsa at Theater Artaud Aug. 25–27. PHOTO BY MARTY SOHL

**JULY 8:** The German PIANIST/CDM-PDSEER Georg Graene performs solo piano at the Noe Valley Music Series. Also includes sets by the Gino Robair, Miya Masaoka, Tom Nunn Trio. 8:15 pm. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 454-5238

**JULY 9 & AUG. 13:** The CANTATE service of chanting, meditation, and prayer sponsored by the Noe Valley Ministry begins at 7 pm. 1021 Sanchez St. 282-2317

**JULY 10 & 24:** ECONDMIST Doug Dowd discusses U.S. capitalist development, past, present, and future. 7:30 pm. Modern Times Bookstore, 888 Valencia St. 282-9246

**JULY 12:** Harriet Ziskin reads from her NDVEL *The Adventures of Mona Pinsky*, about an aging Jewish woman who makes a heroic self-discovery. 7:30 pm. Modern Times Bookstore, 888 Valencia St. 282-9246

**JULY 13:** The Rusty Band will provide live music at the Diamond Senior Center's July birthday party, luncheon, and "Summertime" DANCE. Noon–3 pm. 117 Diamond St. 863-3407.

**JULY 13:** A screening of the FILM *Lakota Woman* will be featured at the monthly meeting of Bay Area Radical Women. Dinner 6:45 pm; meeting 7:30 pm. Valencia Hall, 523A Valencia St. 864-1278.

**JULY 13:** The neighborhood association FRIENDS of Noe Valley welcomes new members to its monthly meeting at the Noe Valley Library. 7:30 pm. 451 Jersey St. 285-8016.

**JULY 13:** Old Wives' Tales' "Poetry As Resistance" program features READINGS by Lydia Kwa, Victoria Manyarrows, and April Martin Chartrand. 8 pm. 1009 Valencia St. 821-4675.

**JULY 14:** Modern Times Bookstore hosts an evening of POETRY by working-class people to benefit Labor Fest '95. 7:30 pm. 888 Valencia St. 282-9246

**JULY 15:** Grey Henry James interviews REBIRTHEE Bob Fussell, author of *Nothing in This Book Is True, But It's Exactly How Things Are*. 8 pm. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 552-1153.

**JULY 16:** AIDS WALK San Francisco, a 10-kilometer fundraising walkathon, begins at 10:30 am at Sharon Meadow in Golden Gate Park (sign-in, 9:30 am). Call 392-WALK for a registration form.

**JULY 19:** The Noe Valley Library screens Fritz Lang's FILM *Metropolis*. 7 pm. 451 Jersey St. 695-5095.

**JULY 19:** Modern Times Bookstore hosts a LESBIAN AND GAY open reading of poetry and prose. 7:30 pm. Modern Times Bookstore, 888 Valencia St. 282-9246

**JULY 20:** La Leche League's monthly get-together features a discussion on the art of BREASTFEEDING and tips on avoiding difficulties. 9:45 am. Natural Resources, 4077 24th St. 282-7816.

**JULY 20:** Editors and contributors to *RACISM in the Lives of Women: Testimony, Theory, and Guides to Antiracist Practice*, discuss the book. 8 pm. Old Wives' Tales, 1009 Valencia St. 821-4675

**JULY 21:** Physical comedian GEDFF HOYLE, Noe Valley's answer to Vaudeville, gives his last one-man show before embarking on a tour of Russia. 8:15 pm. Noe Valley Music Series, 1021 Sanchez St. 454-5238



Before taking his elastic talents off on a tour of Russia, Noe Valley comedian Geoff Hoyle will put in a final appearance at the Noe Valley Music Series July 21.

**JULY 22:** Poet Benjamm Alire Saenz reads from his NOVEL *Carry Me Like Water*, an epic tale set in San Francisco and El Paso. 7:30 pm. Modern Times Bookstore, 888 Valencia St. 282-9246

**JULY 22 & AUG. 12:** Jean-Philippe Rameau's *Pièces de Clavecin* will be the centerpiece of a CLASSICAL CONCERT SERIES, cosponsored by the Alliance Française, featuring violinist Elizabeth Blumenslock, harpsichordist Elaine Thornburgh, and Steven Lehning on viola da gamba. 8 pm. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 387-6890

**JULY 23:** Davies Medical Center offers a LECTURE on how to master chronic pain. 1 pm. Castro & Duboce. Call 565-6297 to register.

**JULY 23:** The Stern Grove Festival free program "Common Ground" combines Chinese and African dance and music, with appearances by the Lily Cai Chinese Dance Company and Dimensions Dance Theater. 2 pm. 19th Ave. & Sloat Blvd. 252-6252

**JULY 25:** Kim Addonizio reads POETRY at Keane's 3300 Club. 7 pm. 3300 Mission St. 333-3494

**JULY 25:** Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni reads from her debut collection of *SHORT STORIES, Arranged Marriage*. 7:30 pm. Modern Times Bookstore, 888 Valencia St. 282-9246

**JULY 26:** Jackeline Rago and Grupo Campana explain traditional VENEZUELAN MUSIC, followed by a reception. 5:30–6:30 pm. Community Music Center, 544 Capp St. 647-6015

**JULY 26:** The Noe Valley Library's BDDK DISCUSSION group will explore Wallace Stegner's *Joe Hill*, a fictional account of the labor activist's life. 7:30 pm. 451 Jersey St. 695-5095

**JULY 27:** Diamond Senior Center sponsors a DAY BUS TRIP to see a review, "Kitchen Kut-Ups," in Rohnert Park, with a lunch stop at the Olive Tree Restaurant. 863-3507 for reservations.

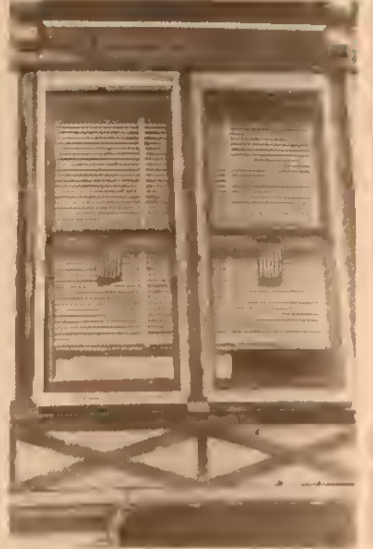
**JULY 28 & 29:** The Community Music Center Orchestra performs a free CDNCERT featuring works by Beethoven, Debussy, and Verdi. 8 pm. 544 Capp St. 647-6015.

**JULY 29:** Cover to Cover hosts a "cyberpunk" BOOK-SIGNING party for Stephen Billias, author of *The Ravens*. 2–4 pm. 3910 24th St. 282-8080.

**JULY 30:** The Omulu CAPOEIRA Group and San Francisco Taiko Dojo perform in Stern Grove. 2 pm. 19th Ave. & Sloat Blvd. 252-6252.

**AUG. 4:** The *Noe Valley Voice* presents the prize winners in its '95 Literary Contest at a reading party at Cover to Cover Booksellers. 7–9 pm. 3910 24th St. 282-8080.

**AUG. 4:** JAZZ GUITARIST Bill Friswell showcases his new group, the Bill Friswell Quartet. 8:15 pm. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 454-5238.



**PATRIOTIC DISPLAY:** Castro Street shows how to do a July 4 designer window on a budget. PHOTO BY BEVERLY THARP

**AUG. 5:** The Noe Valley chapter of La Leche League participates in World Breastfeeding Week Aug. 1–7 by doing a WORLD WALK for Breastfeeding and holding a potluck picnic in Douglass Park. Meet at 2 pm at Natural Resources, 4077 24th St. 282-7816

**AUG. 6:** McCoy Tyner on piano and Bobby Hutcherson on vibraphone will play JAZZ at Stern Grove. 2 pm. 19th Ave. & Sloat Blvd.

**AUG. 11–13:** Rosen BODYWORK offers a discussion/demonstration Aug. 11, 7–9:30 pm, and a hands-on workshop Aug. 12 and 13, 10 am–4:30 pm. Yoga Society, 2872 Folsom St. (510) 845-6606

**AUG. 13:** The San Francisco BALLET performs highlights of the 1995 season. 2 pm. Stern Grove, 19th Ave. & Sloat Blvd. 252-6252

**AUG. 17:** NUTRITIDN and weaning will be the topics at La Leche League's monthly meeting. 9:45 am. Natural Resources, 4077 24th St. 282-7816.

**AUG. 18:** The Noe Valley Ministry hosts a RAFFLE and party to benefit the Building Fund (first prize is a trip to Hawaii). 4–6 pm. 1021 Sanchez St. 282-2317

**AUG. 25–27:** California Contemporary Dancers present a martial arts/DANCE performance, *Ahimsa*. Fri. & Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 7 pm. Theater Artaud, 450 Florida St. 621-7797

## The Scoop on Calendar

The August issue of the *Noe Valley Voice* will appear Wednesday, Aug. 2, but will have absolutely no news, no More Mouths to Feed, no Police Beat, no Storetrek, no Rumors, and no back-page Calendar—sorry.

Instead, the *Voice* is inaugurating a special summer "read-only" issue, featuring the winners in our 1995 fiction, essay, and poetry contest.

Watch for the big splash in the paper next month and at Cover to Cover bookstore, which will host a party and read-o-rama for the winners on Friday, Aug. 4, 7 pm.

Meanwhile, please continue to send us your calendar announcements (and story ideas) for the September issue and beyond. The deadline for September will be Aug. 15, 1995. Mail your notice to the *Noe Valley Voice*, 1021 Sanchez St., San Francisco, CA 94114. Items are published on a space-available basis, with Noe Valley events receiving priority. □

ZIPPER

"POWER BREAKFAST"

BILL GRIFFIN

